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THE TIMES

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Hospitals disrupted by union

Many psychiatric hospitals are restricting non-emergency admissions because of action by the Confederation of Health Service Employees in support of its 12 per cent pay claim. The action is likely to spread later this week when the National Union of Public Employees completes its campaign plans.

Kaunda due to meet Botha

President Kaunda of Zambia and Mr. P. W. Botha, the South African Prime Minister, are expected in Botswana today or tomorrow for a meeting which has puzzled observers and aroused criticism in other "front-line" African states.

Public cash for £50m centre

A last-minute change of mind by the Government means that a £50m international conference centre being built near the Houses of Parliament will now be paid for out of public funds, instead of by private finance.

Ford profits fall

Profits at Ford of Britain fell slightly to £220m before tax last year. The group is Britain's only big car manufacturer to remain in the black.

'Loyalist' threat

Scottish "loyalists" are threatening a battle in Glasgow during the Pope's visit if police stop them from holding a march on June 1.

Polish hope

As Archbishop Josef Glemp, the Polish primate, arrived in Rome, there were strong indications that the Polish Government is prepared to negotiate with the church.

Prior rebuffed

Mr James Prior's plans for devolution in Northern Ireland have been denounced as unworkable by the Democratic Unionist Party and the Social Democratic and Labour Party.

£255,000 award

A Cleethorpes boy aged 17 who was left crippled and blind after a routine appendix operation went wrong has been awarded £255,000 damages.

US buys Iran oil

The United States has resumed buying oil from Iran for the first time since the hostage crisis in 1979.

Mafia death

Frank "Three Fingers" Coppola, the Mafia leader suspected of being involved in heroin trade between Sicily and the United States, died in a clinic near Rome, aged 83.

Petrol up

Eso last night put between 3.5p and 7p a gallon on four-star petrol. Shell, BP and Texaco are expected to follow suit.

Anti-hunt move

Labour members of Waverley District Council, Surrey, are trying to ban hunting on the council's land but the move seems certain to fail.

Dame Celia dies

The opening of a play in London was postponed after the death of Dame Celia Johnson, the actress, at her home on Sunday.

Keegan injury

Kevin Keegan, the England captain, is out of the team to play Wales tonight, after suffering severe backache. Keegan has been having treatment for disc trouble.

Leader page, 13
Letters: On the Falklands, from Lord Mishcon, and the Church, from the Rev R. T. Beckwith; captive in Kabul, from Professor Owen Chadwick.
Leading articles: Falklands; health service workers; Nicholas Fairbairn, the former Solicitor General for Scotland, on why the death penalty should hang over every criminal; an Argentine journalist explains the junta's need for the Falklands; fashion: the fading of demimour; page 14
Dame Celia Johnson, Miss Margaret Popham

Home	2,3	Events	26
Overseas	4,6	Law Report	25
Arts	11	Leisure cartoon	6
Books	12	Parliament	25
Art	11	Sale Room	14
Bridge	14	Sport	20-22
Business	15-20	TV & Radio	25
Court	14	Theatre, etc	10
Food	16	Weather	26
Diary	12	Wills	14

British advance unit reported on the Falklands

By Julian Haviland, Political Editor

ON OTHER PAGES

World reaction 4
The next moves 4
EEC urges speed 4
Fleet's battle order 4
Poll support rises 5
Uncertainty hits pound 5
Parliamentary report 12
Argentina's viewpoint 12
Leading article, letters 13



A small force of British troops has landed on the Falklands, proper, informed sources disclosed last night. It is an advance party seeking a landing site for the main force.

The commander of the Royal Navy task force, Rear Admiral Sandy Woodward, has been given orders allowing him to make a landing at his discretion, but not to attack the capital, Port Stanley. The largest Argentine invasion force is believed to be deployed around the capital and the full Cabinet is to make the final decision on an assault there.

The decision to begin operations in the main Falklands group was taken last week by the Prime Minister and four senior Cabinet colleagues after consultation with the defence chiefs of staff, within guidelines already agreed by the full Cabinet.

It was based on a number of judgments by the Government. Chief of these was the conviction, expressed again in the Commons yesterday by Mrs Margaret Thatcher, that only maximum military pressure would persuade the Argentine Government to negotiate withdrawal of its forces.

The adverse effect on troops of long confinement at sea, and the fact that winter is fast approaching in the Falklands were also factors.

[The Ministry of Defence said last night it had information on the East Falkland operation and even if it had, it would have been unable to discuss an operational matter.]

The Government's urgency was unmistakable when Mrs Thatcher reported to Parliament on the successful re-possession of South Georgia.

So was the Opposition's anxiety. Mr Michael Foot, Leader of the Opposition, insisted that the Government should provide for a debate on the crisis on Thursday. Ministers were last night ready to agree to this.

Mr Foot gave his party's full approval to the retaking of South Georgia. He said we were fully within our international rights. There would be relief that the operation was carried through without serious injury on either side, and with extreme skill.

He then pressed question after question upon the Prime Minister. What is to happen next? What steps was the Government taking to speed up negotiations? When would the Government return

to the Security Council, and how could the House be absolutely sure that there would be no dangerous escalation of the crisis in any way? Mr Foot insisted that political content must be removed from military operations must be absolute, "without any possibility of mistake whatever".

There were Labour cheers and restiveness from Conservative backbenchers as Mr Foot went on: "We on this side remain as firmly, unshakably and persistently committed to fresh initiatives in search of a peaceful settlement and if one initiative fails then another has to be started. The search for peace must never be tormented by us."

Mrs Thatcher, answering questions, repeated again and again that time was running out. She told Mr Foot that it was more than three weeks since the Security Council had called on the Argentine forces to withdraw. "During that time far from withdrawing, they have put reinforcements on the islands."

She said that the negotiations through Mr Alexander Haig, the American Secretary of State, must continue with all possible speed. "Of course we search for peace. We did not break the peace. We must remember that while we search for that peace our people, British people, are under the occupation of the Argentine invader."

But the reply that alerted MPs to the possibility that further activity was imminent was to Mr Douglas Jay, the former Labour minister, who invited the Government to exercise fully our inalienable right of self defence.

The Prime Minister agreed that there was a greater chance of a peaceful settlement "if we bring greater military pressure to bear on the Argentine Government."

Outnumbered British troops forced Argentine surrender

By Henry Stanhope, Defence Correspondent

Royal Marines and soldiers who recaptured South Georgia after a two-hour battle on Sunday, were outnumbered by the Argentine troops at Grytviken.

But after a shore bombardment from the 4.5 inch gun of a Royal Navy warship and after seeing their submarines, the Santa Fe, hit three times by strafing British helicopters, the Argentine garrison offered only limited if not unenthusiastic opposition.

Following their surrender, the garrison commander and submarine captain were taken to the island by helicopter and one of the British ships and expressed their "gratitude for the humanity being shown to the prisoners."

"The operation had been very carefully planned and executed with the direct objective of causing the few casualties," Lieutenant-Colonel Timothy Donkin, Royal Marines, said at a crowded press conference last night.

Colonel Donkin, in the first full account of the engagement, said British task force helicopters landing reconnaissance patrols on South Georgia at dawn on Sunday, were fired at by Argentine observation posts.

It was while the helicopters were returning from their mission, however, that they spotted the Santa Fe, five miles north-east of Sappho Bay, the east of Cumberland Bay.

After identifying it as one of the Argentine navy's two ex-American Guppy class boats, dating back to the Second World War, the task force ships in the vicinity of the South Georgia ordered the helicopter attack, the news of which gave the British public the first intimation that the battle for the desolate island had begun.

The helicopters scored three direct hits as the submarine was making for Grytviken harbour. It struggled into port, missed the jetty and beached, after which it began to disgorge not only a 60-man crew but also reinforcements for the Argentine garrison who came out "in a rush" and ran up the beach towards the garrison headquarters.

It was the detection of the submarine, followed by the sight of the reinforcements, which prompted the task force commander in the area to bring forward the timing of the British assault. Colonel Donkin, who is based at the navy's fleet headquarters at Northwood, North-west London, explained.



Lieutenant-Colonel Timothy Donkin last night: "Operation was planned to cause few casualties."

what he called a "major bombardment" from the task force at sea; not directly at the enemy positions but near to them, with the objective of demoralising the enemy but not inflicting heavy casualties upon them. It was while this bombardment was taking place that British helicopters started to land Marines and soldiers at Grytviken.

After meeting the limited opposition, they saw the white flag being flown alongside the Argentine standard at around 5pm, and 45 minutes later the Argentine flag was lowered and the garrison was assumed to have surrendered.

The only casualty during the entire assault had been one Argentine sailor on the Santa Fe who suffered a severe leg injury. (He is said to have had a leg amputated). Colonel Donkin attributed this to the Royal Marines' distasteful for causing casualties when these could be avoided.

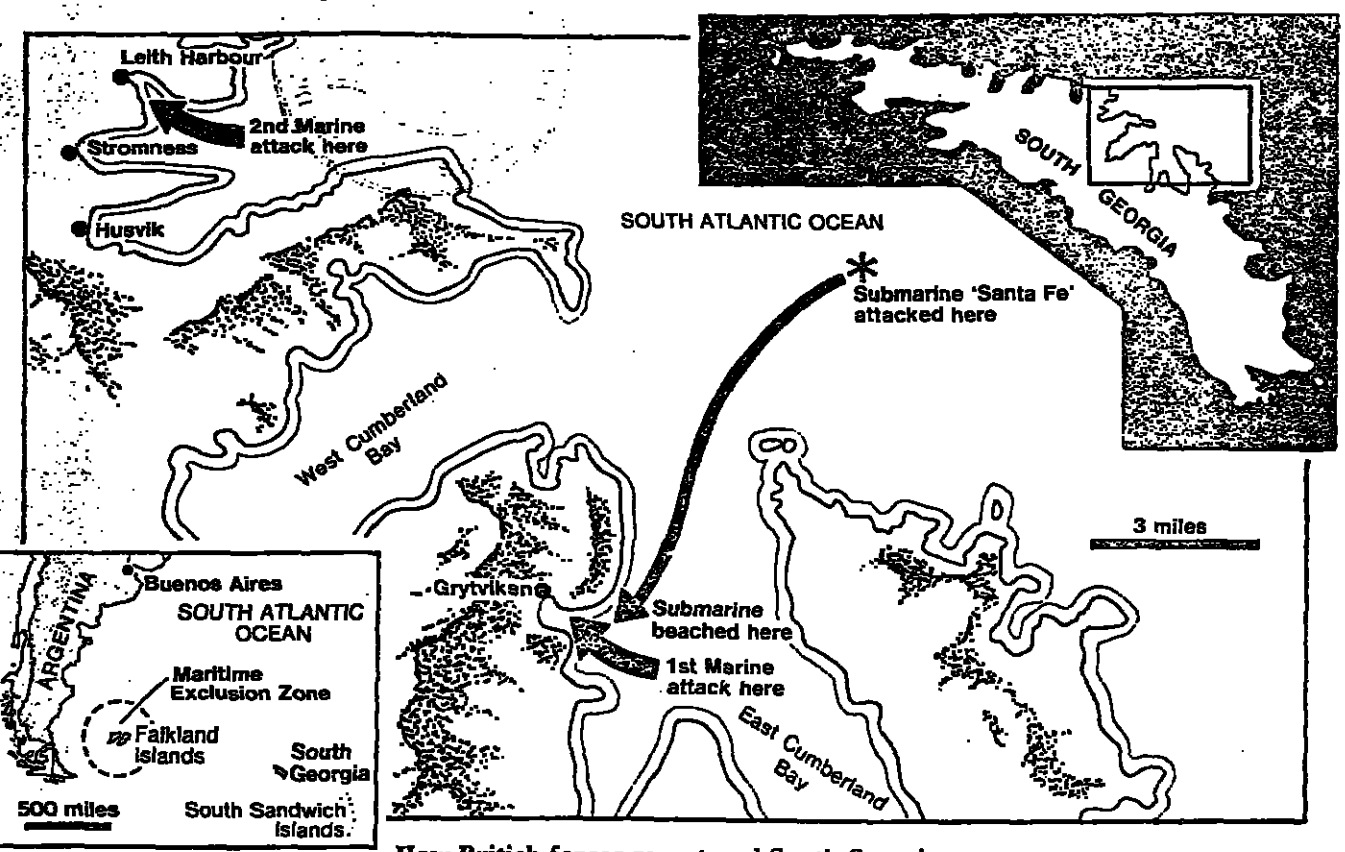
He went on to describe the second operation 10 miles along the coast at the old whaling station of Leith, where a landing by Argentine scrap metal merchants who hoisted their national flag there last month, led to the present crisis over South Georgia and the Falkland Islands.

The assault group called on the 16 Argentine troops and 38 civilians who were there to surrender, following the fall of Grytviken. The civilians, presumably including some of the scrap metal merchants, agreed. But the military commander and his men, all Argentine special forces, elected to fight on.

A British detachment then left Grytviken and took to the sea again, sailing round the indented coastline to Leith, which after a short action was in British hands by first light yesterday. Again there were no casualties, although the Argentines had booby-trapped the approaches to their positions while the British had had to cope with land mines as they moved into action.

In all, some 156 prisoners had been taken, Colonel Donkin said, as well as the 38 civilians. The 156 included the 16 at Leith, the submarine crew of about 60, the original garrison and the reinforcements which the boats had ferried to Grytviken from the Argentine mainland.

There were "far less of us" than there were Argentine troops at Grytviken, he explained, largely because the British had underestimated quite how many reinforcements there were.



How British forces recaptured South Georgia.

We do not want force - Thatcher

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

Mrs Thatcher said last night that the Government would continue its efforts to reach a peaceful settlement of the Falklands dispute. Nobody wanted that more than she did.

Interviewed on the BBC television programme, Panorama, the Prime Minister said she did not think that the retaking of South Georgia would increase Argentine resistance to a peaceful settlement. "I hope it will make them realize that we are quietly determined in support of a principle. We do not want to use force. Democracies never do."

Mrs Thatcher said that diplomatic negotiations would have no chance of success unless they were backed up by the task force and the certainty on the part of the Argentines that Britain would use the task force if need be. "I have always hoped that we would not have to use it," she said.

But since the passage of the United Nations resolution three weeks ago, telling the Argentines to withdraw, they had piled more and more soldiers and equipment into the islands.

It seemed absurd that Argentina had not withdrawn its men from the Falklands under the United Nations resolution. If it did, and we could get the United States to guarantee the security of the islands, or even perhaps if there was a United Nations force, we could withdraw our task force.

Then there would be hope of solving the crisis peacefully. "That is my objective and what I shall work for," she said.

Junta prepares to go on offensive

From Christopher Thomas, Buenos Aires, April 26

Argentina's military junta was today believed to be reviewing tactics for repelling a British counter-attack on the Falklands.

There was still no official acknowledgement late this afternoon of the capture of South Georgia by Britain. The three-man junta was in emergency session, apparently to consider options for some form of offensive against the advancing British fleet rather than merely awaiting its arrival.

Pictures of soldiers placing what appeared to be mines on a Falkland beach appeared in several Argentine newspapers this morning. Some quoted London reports of a British victory but most carried headlines saying the Argentines were holding out.

The junta's last communiqué was issued in the early hours of this morning saying that for tactical reasons communications had been cut with Argentine naval forces on South Georgia. It said: "The apparent initial success of the British forces was based on their numerical superiority, which does not mean that they are in complete control of the island."

"Our forces moved back to their initial position and they continue fighting with higher battle spirits. They have the moral superiority that comes from knowing that they are defending their own country."

Despite the official news blackout, most Argentines were aware of the defeat tonight because of radio reports from Chile and Uruguay. A huge anti-British and anti-American demonstration got under way tonight in the Plaza de Mayo outside the presidential palace.

Prisoners' status confused

By Our Foreign Staff

The British Government was insisting last night that the 200 Argentines captured during the retaking of South Georgia on Sunday were not prisoners of war, but the Geneva Convention seems to contradict this.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher told the Commons: "A state of war does not exist between ourselves and Argentina". The Ministry of Defence was adamant that the captured men were "prisoners, but not prisoners of war." They were referred to as "prisoners."

But Article Two of the Geneva Convention on prisoners of war ruled that it should apply to all cases of declared war or of any other armed conflict which may arise between two or more of the high contracting parties, even if the state of war is not recognized by one of them.

An armed conflict is sufficient then to place captured troops into the category of prisoners of war, provided that the states involved have ratified the convention. Britain and Argentina have both done so.

Professor Gerald Draper, Colonel Emeritus of Law Studies at Sussex University, told The Times last night that in the light of the experience of the Second World War, it had become inevitable that the protection of such prisoners could not be left to the hazardous and debatable determination of the existence of a legal state of war.

The phrase "armed conflict" had been devised as a solution of this difficulty. "It is accepted law that this phrase will cover any situation in which a difference between two states leads to the intervention of armed forces," Professor Draper said.

UN chief appeals for restraint

From Zoriana Pysariwsky, New York, April 26

Señor Javier Pérez de Cuellar, the United Nations Secretary General, today called the situation in the Falklands Islands a threat to world peace, and appealed to the governments of Britain and Argentina to refrain from taking any action that would broaden the conflict.

In a statement issued through his spokesman, Señor Pérez de Cuellar said that the armed exchange between Argentine and British forces on South Georgia has demonstrated the urgent need to halt the escalation of the crisis.

He called on both parties to comply immediately with the three points contained in Security Council Resolution 502, which calls for the cessation of hostilities, the withdrawal of Argentine forces from the Falklands, and a diplomatic solution to the dispute.

Yesterday, Argentina lodged a complaint against Britain in a letter to the Security Council, calling the recapture of South Georgia "an act of armed aggression" and "a grave breach of international peace and security." It stopped short, however, of calling for a meeting of the council.

Washington: Foreign ministers of the Organization of American States (OAS) met here today to consider possible collective action against Britain as the United States struggled to keep negotiations on the Falklands crisis alive after Britain's recapture of South Georgia (Nicholas Ashford writes).

Meeting in the Hall of the Americas in the OAS headquarters in Washington, the foreign ministers this morning approved an initial moderately-worded resolution calling for the maintenance of peace in the Western

Hemisphere, and urging that law should prevail. As the OAS ministers were gathering, President Reagan told a meeting of the United States Chambers of Commerce that "we remain determined to do all we can to help Britain and Argentina resolve their differences without further conflict." He warned, however, that the situation was increasingly difficult, and "time is surely running out."

Señor Raúl Quijano, Argentina's Ambassador to the OAS, said before the meeting started this morning that Argentina was seeking "Latin American solidarity," rather than military aid or sanctions.

Today's meeting was being attended by at least 18 OAS foreign ministers, among them Mr Alexander Haig, the Secretary of State, and Señor Nicácor Costa Méndez, the Argentine Foreign Minister.

On arrival at Kennedy Airport in New York yesterday, Señor Costa Méndez was asked if his country was at war with Britain. He replied "technically yes," but added: "there is never an end to diplomacy."

American and Argentine officials emphasized, however, that Mr Haig's mediation effort had not broken down, and that a meeting between the Argentine and American Foreign Ministers was expected to take place during the day.

Three leading Latin American countries — Brazil, Mexico and Chile — have already made it clear that they will not give automatic support to an Argentine request for action under the Rio Treaty. A number of others are likely to be influenced by the position adopted by these three and by the United States.

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Loyalists issue battle threat on papal visit

By Michael Horsnell

A group of militant Scottish Orangemen is threatening to turn Glasgow into a battlefield if the Pope visits the city under the banner of the Scottish Loyalists, a view which is confirmed by the group's inner council.

The Scottish Loyalists, who broke away from the Grand Orange Lodge of Scotland in 1979 because of the institution's alleged tolerance of republican parades in a city where more than a third of the population is Roman Catholic, are now regarded as one of the prime threats to security during the Pope's visit.

Strathclyde police confirmed yesterday that the group is being monitored but would not say whether they would seek a ban on the march until the organization approaches them with a route.

A member of the Scottish Loyalists' inner council told *The Times* that the organization would approach the police early next month with their plans for the march, and another on the same day through the city centre, and added that he was unable to ensure that members would act responsibly if police oppose them.

According to the group's public relations officers interviewed over recent months without charging them but several leaders say they expect to be arrested under the Prevention of Terrorism Act, which allows the police to hold suspects for an extended period without charge, shortly before the Pope's arrival.

The Scottish Loyalists claim links with local cells of the paramilitary Ulster Volunteer Force and the Ulster Defence Association, the Rev Ian Paisley's Third Force.

The police expect most of the militant groups to parade in the city under the banner of the Scottish Loyalists, a view which is confirmed by the group's inner council.

The Scottish Loyalists constitute the political and theological opposition to the visit of which Mr Paisley will be the focus.

He has been invited to Glasgow, which is harbouring the ingredients of Ulster's religious sectarianism, by the British Council of Protestant Christian Churches, of which he is national chairman, by the Rev David Cassells, a relative by marriage and the council's Scottish representative.

Under the council's auspices Mr Paisley will "show" the Pope throughout his visit, including Liverpool which is regarded as the second most likely flash-point.

Protestant groups there are already raising with Mr Cassells about their own protest plans and flying pickets from Glasgow are expected to support them.

Mr Cassells, Minister of the Jock Troup Memorial Church Glasgow, is chairman of the Scottish Constitutional Defence Committee, a militant Loyalist organization.

He told *The Times*: "We have strong contacts with the Scottish Loyalists. They may be sabre rattling at the moment but there is every sign there is going to be serious trouble. I am very happy for an extended period without charge, shortly before the Pope's arrival."

Mr Cassells, who has helped to organize meetings and rallies in the city is working closely with Pastor Jack Glass, Minister of Glasgow's Sovereign Grace Baptist Church and a candidate under the Protestant

Crusade against the Papal visit banner at the recent Glasgow, Hillhead, by-election.

Pastor Glass is chairman of the Twentieth Century Reformation Movement, another group within the confederation of Protestant organizations opposing the visit, and her works closely with militant members of the Grand Orange Order of Scotland and the Scottish branch of the Apprentice Boys of Derry.

He said: "I am sure there will be violence. The streets are not a church and I have no right to dictate who shall come out on them."

Among the difficulties they and other groups will pose for the police are unfurnished reports that tickets for the Pope's mass have disappeared and others have been forged.

While remaining members of the Grand Orange Lodge, the Scottish Loyalists plan to defy the institution's decision to hold peaceful protests only.

Inquiries by *The Times* show that the group has nine branches.

The Dean of St Paul's Cathedral, the Very Rev Alan Webster, said in an article published yesterday that he hopes the Pope will not speak about a "contraceptive mentality" or "discuss too closely the intimate love life of men and women during his visit to Britain next month (Clifford Lingley, Religious Affairs Correspondent).

In an article in the May edition of *Theology*, the Dean says the Pope is an attractive human being who stands for centralized authority. He is an unmarried man who regards himself as an expert on the family.

"When he visits England, there will be an opportunity to discover whether he can listen", he added.



Victor Korchnoi, the Soviet chess grandmaster, who defected in 1976, demonstrating yesterday outside County Hall, London, where Anatoly Karpov, the Soviet World Champion, is playing in the Phillips and Drew tournament. Korchnoi is campaigning for his family to be allowed to join him. He won the tournament in 1980, but was not invited this year.

Hunt protesters face defeat on ban

By Hugh Clayton, Environment Correspondent

Opponents of hunting face defeat tonight in their latest attempt to persuade Waverley District Council in South-west Surrey to ban hunting on its land.

The council was an attractive target for anti-hunt campaigners because a vote for a ban would not be frustrated by legal arguments about the vesting of sporting rights.

The Waverley area covers more than 80,000 acres including 8,400 acres of rural land owned or managed by the council. A Labour motion calling for a ban on all hunting with hounds on this land will be debated tonight and if it is approved, council officers will be expected to report quickly on ways of enforcing it.

Similar bans elsewhere have been frustrated by the fact that much council land is rented by farmers whose tenancy agreements give them sporting rights. But Waverley, on which 48 of the 61 members are Conservatives, does not own farms.

The motion is expected to be lost after intensive lobby-

ing by supporters and members of hunts.

The only hunt to lose part of its country from such a ban would be Mr Coshen's.

The campaign for a ban has been promoted by the League Against Cruel Sports, which narrowly failed to win a similar vote in Leicestershire last month. It is promoting further motions to ban hunting in Wiltshire, Cambridgeshire, Dorset and South Glamorgan.

The league's efforts have united hunting and shooting organizations, as illustrated yesterday in the speed and scale of their reaction to the Labour Party's latest draft plan to ban hunting after the next general election.

The party's policy of outlawing hunting but not shooting and fishing was dismissed as "clear humbug and political hypocrisy" by the British Field Sports Society, the British Association for Shooting and Conservation and masters of foxhounds, deerhounds, minkhounds, packs of beagles and basset hounds and the National Coursing Club.

Poverty 'threatens Europe's democracy'

By Pat Healy, Social Services Correspondent

Mass unemployment is exacerbating poverty in Europe so much that the democratic foundations of the Community are threatened, Mr Ivor Richard, European commissioner for employment and social affairs, said in London yesterday. But the hostility and resentment of member states to having the collective poverty of Europe exposed ruled out hopes of Community action.

An appalling number of people lived in poverty in Europe, substantially more than 30 million people, or more than one in 10 of the Community's population, Mr Richard said. The increase in unemployment of the past four years had added to the "traditional" groups of poor, the elderly, one-parent families and the disabled, who were suffering most from government cuts.

"In Europe in 1982 we have a body of poor people which is long established, which is persistent and which is growing," Mr Richard said. "Unless we can rad-

ically alter this situation then not only does Europe deserve to stand condemned in the eyes of civilized people but also we place the democratic foundations of our society at very real risk."

Mr Richard, speaking at the launching of a book evaluating the first European anti-poverty programme, offered some hope of piecemeal action against poverty in Europe. The first priority must be the battle against unemployment which was why the commission had asked member states to review their anti-inflation policies and public spending programmes.

The book says that poverty is growing although most Europeans are better off. An internal redistribution of resources could eliminate poverty. It proposes that a minimum index-linked wage, backed by a strong family policy, should be the first step.

Europe Against Poverty: The European Poverty Programme 1975-80, by Jane Deane, Edward James, Graham Room and Philip Eaton (Bedford Square Press £10.95)

Minister rejects 'finite' immigration

By Lucy Hodges

Immigration from the Indian subcontinent is still continuing and it is not possible, as previously thought, to talk about a finite pool of people wanting to come to Britain, Mr Timothy Raison, Minister of State at the Home Office, said yesterday.

That was mainly because the children of first-generation Indian immigrants were looking for wives and husbands from the subcontinent but also because the dependants of initial immigrants were still entering the United Kingdom.

Figures given to the Commons subcommittee on race relations and immigration by the Home Office show that 8,040 wives from the Indian subcontinent were granted permanent settlement in Britain last year.

Most of the wives coming automatically entitled by law to do so and the Government expects that wives and children of men settled in the United Kingdom will continue to come into the 1980s.

Giving evidence to the subcommittee yesterday, Mr

Raison said: "Immigration is something that is continuing. A few years back we thought it was a finite problem. So long as we have a commitment to admit wives and dependants the problem cannot be a finite one."

Mr Alexander Lyon, Labour MP for York and a former Labour minister responsible for immigration, took issue with Mr Raison's analysis and said that apart from second generation immigrants seeking spouses abroad, to which they were perfectly entitled, immigration had dried up.

The minister replied that the facts proved Mr Lyon wrong. "At the end of the day it is a matter of definitions and semantics," he said. "I do not think any of us know what the future of second-generation marriages will be."

Mr Raison told the committee that the idea for the register of dependants from the Indian subcontinent, proposed by the Conservatives before the last election, was not as good a guide to future immigration as an analysis of the statistics.

Sharp shock regime 'too soft'

By Peter Evans

Home Affairs Correspondent

"Tougher" detention centre regimes, intended to give short, sharp shocks to muggers and football hooligans, are in fact easier than the ones they replaced.

The opinion of prison officers at the centres surveyed by their Association. "Very few" muggers and football hooligans are sent there, the Prison Officers' Association says in a circular to its branches.

But medically unfit boys who were sent there included one who was deaf and dumb, another who had had open heart surgery two years before, and some with serious physical deformities.

The "short sharp shocks" were introduced at two detention centres, Send, near Woking, and New Hall, near Wakefield, and later at Haslar, near Gosport, and Foston Hall, near Derby, partly in response to calls for tougher punishments. The emphasis is on drill, physical training and education, the circular says.

Of 1,070 trainees sent to New Hall since the start of the experiment there two years ago, 76 have had to be transferred elsewhere as unfit to cope with the life.

Most trainees continue to be ones who have taken and driven away vehicles or committed larceny. A few are guilty of assault, most of them of causing actual bodily harm.

Trainees "find advantage" in the present variety of activities compared with concentrated effort in the past with its emphasis on hard work.

The works they have come to realize that the longer they take between different activities the less they will have to do.

Drill is a waste of time, the circular says. Trainees prefer it to any other work. But many of them are so badly coordinated and have such a low mental age that marching in time is beyond them. Some trainees are openly ridiculed by others and that damages the rest of their performance.

Some trainees have lost all remission by refusing to do drill training, but staff have no means of compelling them.

Some instructors who realize physical training could be more imaginative have to work in overcrowded inadequate buildings.

King calls for stable economy

from Tim Jones, Cardiff

These are troubled times in the Independent Kingdom of Hay. As His Majesty King Richard I prepares to celebrate the fifth anniversary of his accession on Saturday the horrors of modern technological life continue to encroach on his domain.

Even as King Richard will be presenting to his subjects his newly-appointed wheelwright, part of his mind will be preoccupied with the worrying matters of state.

For His Majesty, otherwise known as Richard Booth, owner of one of the world's largest second hand bookshops, has declared war on the local branch of Fine Fare purveyors of food to princes and peasants alike.

In a petition which he requires his 1,400 subjects to sign, Mr Booth states: "We believe that the 1,000-year-old culture of this town is threatened as never before by the rapid expansion of supermarkets in Wales and we therefore look sympathetically on the request to Fine Fare to leave town."

According to a royal proclamation issued from The

Castle, Hay-on-Wye, via Hereford, 80 per cent of the townsfolk support King Richard's petition asking for a return to the horse economy and the departure of the supermarket.

In an audience granted to *The Times* yesterday King Richard said: "For a thousand years the economy, culture and tradition of Hay has depended on horse transport. The grey squirrel draws out the red."

Stating that everything imported was inferior, the King said that if local milk, cheese, eggs and butter could be reestablished it would be a giant step towards rebuilding the prosperity of the Hay economy.

The royal personage almost trembled when his thoughts turned to the EEC:

"Bureaucrats now intend our sacred land and our only hope of defeating them is to return to the horse economy. Of the 100 jobs created by books in the kingdom another 100 will be created when we revert to the horse."

Fortunately for King Richard, his crown left outside the booking office of Exeter railway station has been returned by a local taxi driver who is to receive a peerage for his honesty. The crown jewels will also be on display on Saturday as King Richard, accompanied by his Minister of Agriculture, outlines his strategy for the next year.

He will display the work of his wheelwright, which includes a governess's cart, training dilly and a horse-drawn breadvan.

Fine Fare, faced with high noon, were not exactly erecting the barricades when told of the proclamation: "It is the first I have heard of it," said a spokesman. "As far as I am concerned the store is very popular in the town."

Video film damages agreed

By David Nicholson-Lord

Damages and costs of £750,000 were agreed in the High Court yesterday in what is thought to be the biggest case to date of video piracy in Britain.

Three people alleged to be involved in a video counterfeiting "factory" in Northampton agreed a series of permanent undertakings to the five leading film and video companies that brought the action.

The court had been told that Mr Charles Noble, his wife and Mr Ricky Green were responsible for a factory for a betting shop in which 45 video recorders were found copying films like *Superman*, *10 Watership Down* and *Lord of the Rings*. The equipment, tapes and artwork were seized under a court order.

The case is the first in a campaign by the recently formed British Videogram Association which has set up a £250,000 fighting fund. The plaintiffs in the action, which is continuing against nine other companies and individuals, are Warner Communications, Thorn-EMI, MGM, Twentieth Century Fox and Video Programme Distributors. Future actions are expected to be "representative", taken on behalf of all association members.

The Nobles and Mr Green agreed not to make or sell copies of films less than 50 years old and made by the plaintiffs and not to "pass off" cassettes under their trade marks.

Fire hazard

Dry weather has made the Lake District a high risk fire area, the Cumbria fire service said yesterday. Motorists and campers were asked to take care with cigarette ends and matches.

Jimmy Hill apologizes on TV row

Jimmy Hill, the sports commentator, apologized in court yesterday for "impugning the integrity" of Football League Management Committee members in a dispute over television soccer coverage.

Mr Hill, in remarks to reporters, accused committee members of behaving illegally after they decided in November 1979 to give London Weekend Television exclusive coverage of matches. Mr Justice Milmo was told in the High Court in London.

London Weekend's offer was more than the BBC and the Independent Television Companies Association had offered between them. Mr David Eady, counsel for the committee, said.

Mr Hill felt the BBC and ITCA should have been given the chance to better the offer, but that was not because London Weekend insisted on secret negotiations.

Eventually it was agreed that shared soccer coverage should continue, Mr Eady said.

Mr Hill, chairman of Coventry City FC and presenter of BBC television's *Match of the Day*, now accepted there had been no attempt to mislead the BBC and ITCA and "unreservedly withdrew" his remarks. The committee drew its libel action against him.

Union damages action agreed

Agreement in principle has been reached over a damages action against Lord Brighshaw who is alleged to have taken part in a conspiracy to defraud the National Society of Operative Printers, Graphical and Media Personnel.

The union has accused its former secretary and two others of misusing union funds. The three say they acted in accordance with union policy. The agreed wording of a court order is expected to be announced in the High Court today.

Porton protest

Fines totalling £560 were imposed by magistrates at Salisbury, Wiltshire, on 24 people arrested on Saturday during an animal rights demonstration at the chemical defence establishment, Porton Down. Five other people were bailed to appear later.

Hairbrush alert

Six electric hairbrushes which could be dangerous because of poor insulation are still being sought by Cumbria's trading standards officer more than three weeks after 39 were sold at an auction in Kendal.

Rally boy killed

Patrick Martin, aged 16, of Lime Tree Close, Rainworth, Nottinghamshire, died yesterday after a car in which he was a passenger crashed during a practice for a rally on a rough track in Clipstone Forest, near Mansfield, Nottinghamshire.

Winning railway

The Welshpool and Llanfair Light Railway Co has won the annual Allen and Unwin Steam Railway award for the railway which has shown the most professional in providing enjoyment for the public.

Actress wins

Britt Eklund the screen actress won a permanent court order yesterday banning the showing of a sex film called *Electric Blue - The Movie* incorporating an eight-second commentary by her which she had not authorized.

Golfer clubbed

Mr Barry Block, aged 44, from Kennington, London, underwent emergency surgery yesterday after being hit over the head with a putter at East Cliff golf course, Folkestone, after an argument over priority at the second tee.

Canvey inquiry

The second part of a public inquiry into the safety of the £12m methane plant at Canvey Island, Essex, today. The British Gas Corporation will seek to answer objections led by Sir Bernard Braine, Conservative MP for Essex, South-east.

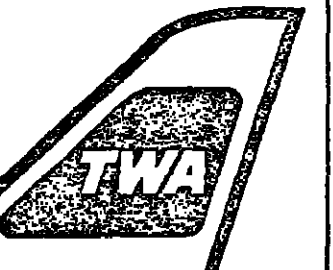
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World reaction

Spain tells both sides of its deep concern

By Our Foreign Staff

Reactions in world capitals to news of Sunday's invasion of South Georgia by British forces included:

□ Madrid: Señor José Pedro Pérez-Llorca, the Spanish Foreign Minister, Mr Richard Parsons, the British Ambassador, and Señor Enrique Llopis, the Argentine Ambassador to the Ministry in Madrid to express his Government's "deep concern" over the hostilities and to urge them to negotiate.

After news of the British attack on an Argentine submarine reached the Spanish capital on Sunday, the Foreign Ministry issued the following communiqué:

"In view of the outbreak of military operations in the South Georgia Islands, the Spanish Government considers that in any case the necessary steps should be taken to avoid at all costs the loss of human lives."

The April 2 declaration said in part: "Decolonization should be carried out, assuring the reestablishment of Argentine territorial integrity and safeguarding the interests and welfare of the population, via a peaceful process of negotiation."

After his meeting yesterday evening with the two ambassadors, Señor Pérez-Llorca was reported to have conferred with Señor Leopoldo Calvo Sotelo, the Prime Minister, about the Falklands conflict.

The liberal daily *Diario-16* commented yesterday in a leading article: "We Spaniards... have our own 'Falklands'... yet, with all due respect for our legitimate arguments for sovereignty over the Rock, Gibraltar will never be worth the blood of a single Spaniard, or even of a single British person."

□ Tokyo: The Japanese Government reacted gravely

and expressed regret over the current development, Mr Zenko Suzuki, the Prime Minister, said. It was "very regrettable" that the situation had developed into armed conflict "at a time when Mr Alexander Haig, the American Secretary of State, is actively engaged in mediation efforts."

While local newspapers reported the clash with banner headlines, the Government remained rather sober, apparently reflecting the neutral position it has taken since Argentina occupied the Falkland Islands.

□ Bonn: West Germany reaffirmed its support for Britain over the Falklands issue. Herr Kurt Becker, the Government spokesman, said West Germany had supported Britain from the start over the illegal seizure of its sovereign territory "and this support continues unchanged."

Many West German newspapers expressed misgivings about the British landing and believed that a peaceful solution would be more difficult than before.

The *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* saw the recapture of South Georgia as a last warning by Britain to Argentina and predicted that a peaceful solution of the conflict "is farther off than ever". The *Frankfurter Rundschau* said a peaceful solution was now more difficult, perhaps impossible, unless the Argentine regime climbed down.

Die Welt argued that the timing of the landing, just before the conference of the Organization of American States in Washington gave the Argentine regime "the chance to arouse fresh emotions and brand the Britons as Aggressors."

resolve has not weakened rather than strengthened its hand in any continuing negotiations. The independent leftwing daily *Le Mazin* emphasized that "one cannot, in this affair, ignore the fact that hostilities were deliberately, in violation of international rules, started by Buenos Aires."

This is undisputed in France. The socialist Government did not have a moment's hesitation in condemning Argentina, backed by public opinion, because its reaction of injured pride was something with which this country instinctively sympathizes and because the tolerance of such practices by the international community could be contagious; and France too possesses disputed islands.

□ Sydney: Mr Malcolm Fraser, the Australian Prime Minister, said Britain's use of force in South Georgia was a consequence of Argentina's invasion of the Falkland Islands. "Argentina has refused to take effective action to settle the dispute by peaceful means and has ignored repeated warnings from the British Government that the circumstances justified the use of force," he said.

"It is a matter of great regret that the Argentine Government initiated military action in this dispute, and has not allowed it to be settled by peaceful means."

□ Wellington: The New Zealand Government applauded Britain's repossession of South Georgia. Mr Robert Muldoon the Prime Minister, expressed the Cabinet's "gratification" that Britain had moved decisively and effectively.



British 'pirates' jeered

Argentines demonstrating outside Government House in Buenos Aires on Sunday afternoon. The inscription on the Union Jack reads "dirty pirates".

Newspapers had headlined the Junta's early morning announcement that British helicopters and warships were attacking the Argentine defenders on South Georgia, who were holding their own. The crowd of about 200 outside Government House was small compared with the throng that had filled the Plaza de Mayo in support of the Government's refusal to

negotiate its claim to sovereignty over the Falklands. Streets elsewhere in the Argentine capital were quiet.

Señor Pablo Marconi, a businessman among the crowd in the square, said he thought the British attack was "idiotic". "No matter how this comes out, the British have no right here," he said. Asked if he was afraid the South Georgia hostilities could set off a full-scale war, he replied "Argentina is not afraid."

Others were not so confident. "Certainly I'm afraid," Señor Guillermo Larrea, a taxi driver said. "We are a people of peace. We don't know what war is like." He said he still hoped for a diplomatic solution.

Señora María del Carmen de Fuentes said the thought of war with Britain made her sad, but she was certain Argentina was in the right. "The destruction and the economic cost are not the worst things, but the human cost," she said. "Not only Argentine boys are going to die, but English boys, too. I think about our boys there in the south, but also feel sorry for mothers in England."

The next moves

Muscles flexed on island springboard

By Henry Stanhope, Defence Correspondent

The operation in South Georgia has recaptured for Britain a barren, windswept land of glaciers and snowy mountains, whose only indigenous population grow flippers. But could it also be a springboard from which to launch an assault upon Argentine forces in the Falkland Islands?

Politically the counter-attack on South Georgia was attractive because the Argentine claim to sovereignty is recent and specious. Diplomatically it reinforces British policy of negotiating from strength by proving that the Government is prepared to use force.

Militarily, the operation has done a power of good for morale, in Britain and in the South Atlantic. If only for that reason it seemed sensible to do the easier things first. It has endorsed the Government's confidence in the forces in situ.

It has given the Royal Navy a deep water anchorage in which to harbour its ships from the buffeting they are now enduring on the high seas. Sailors will be able to scratch their legs, as some of the marines have already done. If Rear-Admiral John Woodward, the task force commander, decides that he has enough time.

South Georgia has plenty of fresh water, unlike the Falklands themselves, and four old whaling stations which could provide storage facilities for food and fuel in theory; cutting down on the voyages to and from Ascension Island 3,500 miles away. Moreover, it is effectively outside the range of the Argentine Air Force whose in-flight refuelling capacity is extremely limited.

As a forward base for the task force, however, it has severe limitations, apart from the shortage of natural facilities.

One is the absence of an airstrip and the other is its 800-mile distance from Port Stanley. Harrier aircraft can take off vertically, but only at enormous cost in terms of payload and range, which would make the use of them from Gryllsven impracticable.

There were reports yesterday that the Government might order Admiral Woodward's counter-attack on the Falklands sooner rather than later, while his troops have psychologically the upper hand.

He has nuclear-powered submarines enforcing the maritime exclusion zone around the Falklands while his own ships and aircraft have declared a similar air and sea zone around themselves. When the force enters Falklands waters — today was one early estimate — he will probably establish an air exclusion zone around them.

Any immediate action has some disadvantages. One is that he would have to operate without the 20 or so additional Harriers which are being ferried out from Britain. He would have only 20 with him, and their flying time could be curtailed by the heavy seas under the carriers.

But by waiting while the Government once more tries to find an acceptable peace formula he adds to the problems of supply and is subjecting his weather-beaten sailors and marines to more debilitating days at sea.

Estimates of the assault troops now with the task force vary from 5,000 upwards. They are almost certainly fewer than the number of Argentine troops on the Falklands, whereas an attacking force should have a three-to-one advantage according to the old textbooks — and he has no guaranteed air superiority.

At things being equal, he would probably prefer to launch his counter-offensive through one of the back or side doors of the Falklands rather than the front, establishing a beachhead in one or more of the numerous, shelving inlets, far away from Port Stanley.

There are other options. One remains that of simply laying siege to the islands by means of a sea and air blockade, but this would take time, would make life difficult for the islanders and be hard to maintain.

Another, a punitive action against the Argentine fleet, would risk heavy loss of life on both sides — and could easily be avoided by the Argentine ships running into port. A third, a similar strike by Vulcan bombers against air and naval mainland bases, would risk stigmatizing Britain's reputation.

Admiral Woodward has a number of options, none of them very attractive. The capture of South Georgia might arguably have given him more time to consider them — and arguably not.

EEC seeks quick settlement

From Ian Murray, Luxembourg, April 26

Only a very quick settlement of the Falklands crisis without the use of undue force is capable of ensuring unqualified support for Britain from all its European partners. The EEC Foreign Ministers Council will endorse this view at its present meeting here.

Mr Francis Pym, the Foreign Secretary, is due here late this evening and will give his fellow council members a report on the Falklands when they meet tomorrow.

The member states of the EEC were among the first to give Britain support after the Argentine invasion of the Falkland Islands. They backed their unanimous condemnation of the Junta's action by imposing a total import and arms sale ban on Argentina. The EEC takes 25 per cent of all Argentine exports.

The EEC condemnation was unusually swift and undoubtedly sincere. Many of the countries know that they will suffer economically as a result of the ban. But many of them know they

could be vulnerable to a similar attack. However, there is little or no enthusiasm among member countries for any solution which may be obtained by fighting. In all its declarations on the subject the Council has emphasized the need for a peaceful solution and it has carefully shied away from any open discussion on military matters.

This is in no small measure due to the European aversion to fighting, born of the experience of two world wars. The EEC was brought into being by the need for peace and by the realization that fighting was a bad way to solve any problems.

The distaste for fighting in this instance is also due to a calculation that the Soviet Union could quickly spread its influence in South America if it sided with Argentina in a war. The sure way to give the Kremlin a strong base in the South Atlantic is for Britain to go to war over the Falklands, one diplomat here said.

The EEC hope that diplomatic and economic pressure

Latin America's other flashpoints

A turbulent continent simmers

By Peter Stafford

Geopolitics is taken seriously in South and Central America. There are border disputes in many parts and from time to time they flare up, causing tension or even hostilities. Here are the main ones.

Venezuela-Guyana: Venezuela claims the Essequibo region, which accounts for about two-thirds of the territory of Guyana. By the protocol of Port of Spain, signed in 1970, the two countries agreed to freeze the dispute for 12 years. But that period expires on June 18, and Venezuela has said that it will not extend it.

Venezuela-Colombia: There are differences over delimitation of the maritime border in the Gulf of Venezuela. The disputed areas are possibly oil-bearing.

Colombia-Nicaragua: Nicaragua claims the islands of Providencia and San Andrés, and a number of small islets which lie between the coasts of the two countries and have been under Colombian rule for many years.

Guatemala-Belize: Guatemala maintains its claim to the whole of Belize, which became independent last year. Mexico-Belize: Mexico has a legal claim to the northern part of Belize. But it has said that it would only press it if Guatemala took over Belize. Mexico supports Belizean independence.

Ecuador-Peru: Ecuador claims a large expanse of Peruvian Amazonia. The two countries went to war over it in 1941, and there was a brief outbreak of fighting over remote border posts last year.

Bolivia-Chile: Bolivia lost a stretch of territory giving it access to the Pacific in the War of the Pacific in 1879. It has been making efforts to regain access to the ocean ever since.

Peru-Chile: Peru also lost territory to Chile in the War of the Pacific. It has been less active in trying to regain it, but insists on its treaty right to be involved in any settlement between Bolivia and Chile.

Argentina-Chile: Argentina claims three islands in the Beagle Channel, south of Tierra del Fuego, and nearby went to war over them in 1978. The issue is now under consideration by the Pope, who has made recommendations for a settlement.

BBC steps up broadcasts

By Kenneth Goshing

Many radio listeners in Argentina are contacting the British Embassy in Buenos Aires about the frequencies of BBC broadcasts to South America.

The embassy is acting for Britain during the Falklands dispute and Mr Domingo Valenzuela, organiser of the BBC's Latin American service, sees the calls for advice as "extremely encouraging". The BBC has recently stepped up its service in Spanish from four to five hours a day and South America also receives up to eight hours of English broadcasts from the World Service every day.

Mr Valenzuela said yesterday: "Our aim is to give objective information while trying always to put the British point of view. We go for interviews and information from our correspondents in Argentina and give reaction from other Latin American countries."

Radio stations in South America ring us up and we tell them the latest situation; and we put out interviews with journalists, academics and politicians.

"We have also had letters from Argentina which say things like: 'It does not matter what happens — I will go on listening to you because I believe what you say.'"



Voice of home: Sarah Kennedy recording a radio request show for members of the Falklands task force.

account of what was happening and there was no evidence that the Argentine authorities were trying to jam broadcasts.

Broadcasts to the Falklands were stepped up last night from three a week to a daily transmission on short wave. Nearly 1,500 requests, including nearly 150 taped messages for islanders have already been received by the BBC.

A request programme for British task force troops was launched yesterday by the British Forces Broadcasting Service in conjunction with BBC External Services using the Ascension Island relay station.

Here's one in the eye for Women's Lib.



The Sunday Times has a reputation for not pulling its punches.

That's what makes it food and drink for well over 4 million people every weekend.

Next Sunday's issue is no exception.

Despite Simon Winchester's incarceration in Buenos Aires, our Insight team continues its in-depth reportage of the Falklands Conflict.

While the Review carries the fascinating results of a specially-commissioned Mori Survey: "What hope for love and marriage?"

In the first of a 3-part series, our business Section tackles the ins and outs of the Unemployment problem. An enormous job in itself.

While 'LOOK', our new-style 'magazine within a magazine', examines the latest and perhaps the most powerful feminist movement to date... Self Defence.

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Look. The magazine within a magazine.

Handwritten text in Arabic script at the bottom of the page.

FALKLANDS CRISIS 2

Fleet goes into battle order after clashes

From John Witherow, on board HMS Invincible April 26

The Royal Navy task force has gone into battle formation for the first time after the attack on an Argentine submarine and the landing of marines on South Georgia. The fleet, which is still heading south, had made plans to transfer to the new positions some time ago, to prepare it against any kind of assault, whether from the air, sea or submarine, but this was no doubt given a greater sense of urgency by the outbreak of hostilities.

It now presents an impressive sight, with the aircraft carriers Hermes and Invincible surrounded by an array of frigates, destroyers and supply vessels, sailing through a leaden and calm South Atlantic. Other ships still remain off South Georgia with the invasion force.

As part of this defence, Harrier jets and Sea King helicopters are in a high state of readiness. While the helicopters plumb the ocean with sonar devices in search of hostile submarines, the Harriers are on 24-hour alert to intercept Argentine Air Force Boeing 707s, which have been dogging the task force for four days, gathering information about its make-up and position.

The warning from London that such aircraft would have "appropriate action" taken against them if they continued their reconnaissance flights seems to have been at least temporarily effective.

Until Sunday they had been flying on average twice a day, as close to the fleet as possible, and had been rapidly intercepted by armed jets. The fact that they may now be fired on, especially after the fighting in South Georgia, seems to have stopped these flights.

Apart from shooting the aircraft down, the Harriers would be able to fire their cannon, alongside to show they meant business, to fly in front of the 707 and force it to follow in their stream, or to indicate that it should follow the Harrier by rocking its wings, an internationally accepted sign for an interception.

Lieutenant-Commander Nigel Ward, in charge of the Invincible's 801 Harrier Squadron, said his men were working harder than at any time on the voyage. "We're ready for whatever happens now, as anyone would be when they approach a war zone," he said.

The news of the attack on the Second World War Guppy submarine came as something of a surprise. It now appears that the submarine, the Santa Fe, may have sailed onto the middle of the final preparations for the assault by marines on the island. It was fired on about five miles north of Cumberland Bay, in South Georgia, and then went back to the port of Grytviken.

The landing took place sometime afterwards. Most crewmen on board HMS Invincible had not expected action so soon, and there was a mixture of reactions, some relief that the waiting was over and the tension eased, and some anxiety that the "honeymoon" period had ended, and a diplomatic settlement now seemed more remote.

Earlier, after the news of the attack on the submarine, the internal radio played "Don't cry for me, Argentina, I never loved you". A notice-board outside the wardroom, asking officers to pay their mess bills for March, also put the score-line: England 1-Argentina 0.

How junta admitted the setback

From Our Own Correspondent Buenos Aires, April 26

The first admission by the Argentine Government that the British had launched a counter-attack on South Georgia came in a communiqué No 27, issued at noon local time (4pm British time).

It said: "Two British helicopters attacked Grytviken at 8.40 am, and a submarine has gone to defend the port. The attack was a flagrant violation of international law and of United Nations Resolution 502, and Article 3 of the Inter-American Treaty. The attack was repelled by troops."

Communique No 28, issued at 2 pm, said: "In the early morning of this morning, two British helicopters attacked an Argentine submarine that was on the surface at Grytviken unloading provisions, medicine and mail for troops and about 30 scrap-metal merchants, who were there to dismantle a whaling station. It has to be pointed out that a submarine on the surface has no means of defending itself."

Communique No 29, issued at 4 pm, said: "We are resisting their shells and machine-gun attacks. Our position will not be cracked. Diplomatically and militarily we are in a favourable position."

Communique No 30, issued at 7 pm, said: "After four hours of shelling from the destroyer Exeter, and machine-gun attacks by two helicopters, British forces have made a tactical retreat, and are now off Leith Harbour. Four British ships, including the Exeter, are off South Georgia."

Communique No 31, issued at 8 pm, said that the commander of the naval forces was destroying radio equipment, and was preparing for the last battle.

The final communiqué was issued after midnight, stating: "The military junta communicates to the people of Argentina that, for tactical reasons, they have cut communications with the naval forces operating at South Georgia. The apparent initial success of the British forces was based on their numerical superiority which does not mean that they are in complete control of the island."

"Our forces moved back to their initial positions and they continue fighting in good spirits. They have a moral superiority that comes from knowing that they are defending their own country."

Explosive display

An Argentine company which specialises in the manufacture of aircraft bombs and parachutes has booked exhibition space at the Farnborough Air Show in September. The firm, Fabrica Militar de Aviones, decided to take part long before the invasion.

So far the Society of British Aerospace Companies, which organises the exhibition, has made no move to ban the company.

Poll shows support increasing

By Our Foreign Staff

Public support for the way the British Government is handling the Falklands crisis is continuing to grow steadily, according to the latest opinion poll published last night.

The poll, which was carried out by the MORI organization for BBC television's Panorama programme just before the battle of South Georgia showed that 76 per cent of British adults were satisfied with the government's handling of the crisis, compared with figures of 60 and 68 per cent in two earlier polls taken by MORI during the past fortnight.

The Falklands crisis also appears to have helped the Conservative Party's popularity. According to last night's MORI poll 39 per cent of those interviewed would now vote Conservative compared with 33 and 36 per cent in the two previous polls. Support for Labour is now running at 32 per cent and for the SDP-Liberal Alliance at 28 per cent.

As the crisis develops more Britons are now prepared to accept losses of life among British servicemen and Falkland islanders as they were to restore British administration over the islands.

Of those interviewed, 58 per cent would now accept the loss of servicemen's lives, compared with 44 per cent and 50 per cent in the two previous polls; and 46 per cent believe that the lives of Falkland Islanders would be a justifiable price to pay, compared with 36 and 37 per cent before.

Asked what type of military action the British government should take, 58 per cent of those questioned thought the Argentine ships should be sunk, but only 33 per cent would support the bombing of Argentine military and naval bases.

Mrs Thatcher's personal popularity appears to have remained intact. Sixty-four per cent say that their opinion of the Prime Minister is unchanged, 20 per cent say it has gone up and 15 per cent that it has dropped.

Germany lead arms suppliers

By Our Foreign Staff

Britain's share of the Argentine arms market was below that of some other exporters for the period from 1977 to 1981, according to a statement from the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI).

It puts West Germany at the head of the list, with 33 per cent of the total of major weapons delivered to Argentina. The West German military supplied warships and armoured vehicles.

"The UK share for the period was 10 per cent, made up of two type 42 destroyers and naval missiles. The UK, however, played a more important role as a supplier

of military electronics, radar and other types of software." The United States emerged as the second largest supplier, with 17 per cent of the Argentine market. It "continues to supply aircraft, including 40 A4Q Skyhawk naval fighters, which had been ordered before the 1978 embargo."

France was the third largest exporter of arms to the military government in Buenos Aires, with 15 per cent of sales. These included aircraft, missiles, vehicles and frigates.

"Israel was responsible for 14 per cent of Argentina's major arms imports during this period," Israeli exports

"included Dabur class fast patrol boats and as many as 42 Israeli-built Mirage 5 strike fighters known as Dagger."

Belgium, Spain and Switzerland are among other sources of Argentine arms, including those manufactured under licence.

As an illustration of British involvement in supplying equipment, SIPRI says: "The Plessey-Cumgrave system on the Venticinco de Mayo (the British-built Argentine aircraft carrier) was modified in the UK, to provide direct computer-to-computer radio data links with the new type 42 destroyers, and to improve control of the carrier-based aircraft."

By Our Foreign Staff

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No man's land pact may end Israel-Egypt rift

From Christopher Walker, Taba Bay, April 26

A provisional agreement was reached early this morning which will enable normal life to continue in this picturesque 600-metre-wide strip of the Red Sea coast which has recently been the cause of a sharply contested border dispute between Israel and Egypt.

The agreement effectively removed the last serious difference between the two countries which cast a shadow over yesterday's final Israeli withdrawal from occupied Sinai. It was signed at separate ceremonies in Jerusalem and Cairo presided over by Mr Walter Strossel, the American Deputy Secretary of State.

Under the terms of the agreement, the disputed stretch of sand and palm trees will become something of a no man's land while talks continue to determine which side has sovereignty. A joint committee will be established to determine the next stage in the negotiations, with the United States prepared to play a role if requested by both parties.

During the interim period, which officials believe could stretch for at least a year, the triangle of disputed coastline will be patrolled by troops from the new multinational Sinai peacekeeping force. Both Israeli and Egyptian citizens will be able to enter freely and a flourishing Israeli beach club opened after the 1967 war will remain in business.

The two sides have agreed that no new projects will be started in the land which commands a magnificent position overlooking the Gulf of Eilat towards the mountains of Jordan.

But work will continue on a multi-million pound resort hotel now nearing completion and owned by a consortium of Israeli and foreign businessmen.

Despite the agreement there was still confusion at the new border crossing today with both Egyptians and Israelis urgently trying to establish what the status of the area would be. By evening no one had been allowed to cross because Colonel Muhammad Farouk, chief of the Egyptian immigration team, claimed that facilities were not yet ready.

The first problem in the sensitive new relationship came early when Colonel Farouk was approached by his Israeli opposite number and asked to allow a Bedu tribesman back to his Sinai home. It materialized that the Arab had been having his car repaired in the Israeli town of Eilat and was unaware of the territorial handover.

Colonel Farouk who looked well versed in the complexities of Egyptian bureaucracy, announced flatly that for the moment nothing could be done. "Our text is not yet put up so we cannot consider his papers," he said. "But I am sure that in the end everything will be all right. The Israelis are our brothers now."

Later it was learnt that the border crossing will not open until tomorrow. A group of about a dozen Egyptian police and tourist officials are now based at a new tent encampment erected at the Israeli beach club.

□ Tel Aviv: Palestinian Arab demonstrations against the Egyptian-Israeli peace were broken up in the West Bank

today by soldiers and police with truncheons, tear gas and gunfire (Moshe Brilliant writes).

An Arab teenager and a nine-year-old boy were injured in Yamun, near Jenin. Israeli sources said they were shot after the older victim had threatened a soldier with a knife.

Schools in West Bank towns considered hotbeds of radical nationalism were shut as a precaution by the military Government. Curfews were imposed in West Bank villages as well as in Rafah, the town straddling the Sinai border divided yesterday by the peace treaty.

□ Moscow: The Soviet leadership today called the Israeli withdrawal from Sinai a farce which had nothing to do with the establishment of a just and lasting peace in the Middle East (Michael Binyon writes).

A statement, issued by Tass, said the Israeli occupation of Sinai was being replaced by an American occupation. It said the United States would acquire a jumping-off ground for direct interference in the affairs of Middle East states and those in adjacent regions.

"The character of the 'change of guard' in Sinai, a character hostile to the Arabs, is not in the least weakened by the fact that the American soldiers there will be supported by soldiers of Atlantic block. The peoples of the Middle East remember well the sway of the colonial powers on their soil. The Arabs know better than anyone else how much time and effort was needed to drive the colonialists out."

The Oxford-educated prince, aged 36, a nephew of Emperor Hirohito, has said informally that he hopes to leave the imperial family and live as a commoner, an agency official said. He was unable to say why the prince wanted to do so.

Prince Tomohito, who is married and has a baby daughter, was admitted to the Red Cross medical centre here yesterday suffering from accumulated fatigue since early April, the official added. The Prince, eldest son of Prince Mikasa, younger brother of the emperor, is undergoing medical examination.

Press reports have said he wants to devote himself to social welfare work for the physically handicapped, free from official duties and without imperial status.

The imperial household agency has not received any formal request from Prince Tomohito and so has no plans to act, the official said.

Secession from the imperial family must be approved by an imperial household council, whose members include the Prime Minister and supreme court judges.

Prince Tomohito's father was dubbed The Red Prince by the press in the 1950s for his campaign against the revival of emperor-worship in Japan and because he was the only member of the royal family to break through the ranks of imperial courtiers and mix freely in Japanese public life.



Birthday visit: The Queen Elizabeth 2 just clears the Commodore Barry bridge as she sails up the Delaware river at Philadelphia to join the city's tricentennial celebrations.

Key West mouse roars at federal big cats

From Michael Miller, New York, April 26

Key West, the southernmost town in the United States, has seceded from the nation and declared war on America in a real-life sequel to the film *The Mouse That Roared*.

Residents of the island town are angry with the federal Government over a roadblock set up by the United States Border Patrol on the only road leading from the mainland.

It was set up on Interstate Route 1 in an attempt to stem the flow of drugs and illegal immigrants that enter the country by landing on the string of islands that comprise the Florida Keys.

The resulting 19-mile long traffic jam deterred hundreds of motorists on their way to Key West, who turned round and went back home or decided to spend their holidays elsewhere. This, say the townspeople, cost them hundreds of thousands of dollars in revenue.

Protest in Seoul after Bush praises regime

Seoul, April 26. — Hundreds of riot police tonight broke up an anti-government demonstration outside a Seoul cathedral hours after the visiting United States Vice-President, Mr George Bush, passed on American praise to the South Korean authorities.

Earlier today he handed a letter to President Chun Doo Hwan from President Reagan, congratulating the Seoul government for its steps towards national reconciliation.

The demonstration occurred after a mass for a priest arrested for alleged involvement in an arson attack on a United States cultural centre. The mass was attended by more than 2,000 Koreans crowded into Myongdong Cathedral. At the Mass, Archbishop Yoon Kong Hi criticized the Government for detaining Fr Choi Ki Shik, who was accused of sheltering suspects. — Reuters.

The reshuffle comes as something of an anti-climax compared with the general expectations over the past weeks. The Chancellor's task was made extremely difficult by diabolical leaks and speculations and the whole episode gave an impression of confused and weak leadership.

One Cabinet minister is reported to have remarked: "A reshuffle is something that should be done, not talked about."

Ministers switched by Schmidt

From Patricia Clough, Bonn, April 26

Herr Helmut Schmidt, the Chancellor, called on President Carl Carstens tonight with the list of new ministers and other top government appointments in his long-awaited Cabinet reshuffle.

The changes, to be formally announced tomorrow, are reliably expected to involve three new ministers and a switch-around of other senior officials to bring trusted and experienced people back into key posts close to the Chancellor.

The most important and most controversial move is the appointment of Herr Manfred Lahnstein, previously head of the Chancellery, to the post of Finance Minister. He takes the place of Herr Hans Matthöfer who for health reasons is being moved to the less strenuous job of Post Minister.

Herr Lahnstein, although a Social Democratic Party member, is a civil servant, not a member of Parliament, and the expected appointment aroused much antagonism.

Herr Heinz Westphal, a former aircraft mechanic and party finance expert, will become Labour Minister in place of the unpopular and colourless Dr Herbert Ehrenberg.

Frau Anke Fuchs, a former junior minister at the Labour Ministry and once described by Herr Schmidt as future Chancellor material, becomes Health and Family Minister in place of Frau Antje Huber who recently resigned.

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Japanese prince 'may quit court'

Tokyo, April 26. — Prince Tomohito, seventh in line to the Japanese throne, has expressed his desire to live as a commoner, the imperial household agency said today.

The Oxford-educated prince, aged 36, a nephew of Emperor Hirohito, has said informally that he hopes to leave the imperial family and live as a commoner, an agency official said. He was unable to say why the prince wanted to do so.

Prince Tomohito, who is married and has a baby daughter, was admitted to the Red Cross medical centre here yesterday suffering from accumulated fatigue since early April, the official added. The Prince, eldest son of Prince Mikasa, younger brother of the emperor, is undergoing medical examination.

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Prince Tomohito's father was dubbed The Red Prince by the press in the 1950s for his campaign against the revival of emperor-worship in Japan and because he was the only member of the royal family to break through the ranks of imperial courtiers and mix freely in Japanese public life.

The Government is thus expected, around May 3, Constitution Day, to go some way towards meeting church preconditions by releasing a substantial number of internees, easing the surface effect of martial law (including perhaps the curfew) and by showing that it can incorporate Solidarity into the public discussion on the future of trade unions.

Thus last weekend a number of Solidarity advisers met Government officials to talk about the future shape of the union movement and one newspaper, *Zycie Warszawe*, has published a letter from former Solidarity activist critical of the Government.

The same newspaper today indicated that a front of national accord was within sight, reflecting the political leanings of the newspaper's deputy editor, Mr Janusz Stefanowicz, a lay Catholic parliamentarian who has shown himself generally sympathetic to the regime.

The problem is whether this all adds up to more than theatre. Although talks may start, there is not much scope for further concession on fundamental issues. The church for example would like to see democratically elected local elections but the party would have great difficulties recognizing this possibility.

Two key elements are out of the discussions, the bulk of the Solidarity leadership and the tough ideologically inclined Marxists in the Communist Party.

The latter could still thwart even the most sophisticated national agreement by refusing to accept anything that challenges the "leading role" of the Communist Party, and the talks seem to be conducted more on behalf of Solidarity than with them.

Above all, the radical Solidarity leaders are unlikely to accept any agreement that neutralizes the union.

Rome: Archbishop Glemp said on arrival here that "the church wants peace and dialogue with all parts of society." (Reuters reports).

Asked whether this should include Solidarity, he replied: "We want to create a climate for a real dialogue together with all expressions of society. This is our desire."

Poles ready for deal with church

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw, April 26

As Archbishop Jozef Glemp, the Polish Primate, travelled to Rome today there were strong indications that the Polish Government was prepared to enter into serious negotiations with the church in an effort to solve the problem of Solidarity, the suspended independent trade union and secure a national accord.

Before leaving Warsaw airport, the Primate said that there was some chance of women internees being released soon. "There is a hope for that," he said. In fact, a number of Solidarity experts and released internees have been told that the Government is actually ready to release several hundred internees in early May, apparently as a sign of good will towards the church which has consistently appealed for an end to internment before serious talks could begin.

The Primate saw General Wojciech Jaruzelski, the Polish leader yesterday for a brief meeting during which the need for a front of national understanding was emphasized by the General.

The church advisers say, is reluctant to give away too much ground to fast. But both sides, particularly the Pope and General Jaruzelski are anxious to defuse the crisis by instituting talks.

General Jaruzelski has to demonstrate to the hardliners that dialogue pays dividends. The church has to ensure that the splits in Polish society do not become permanent and that it is not viewed as an obstacle to negotiations.

The Government is thus expected, around May 3, Constitution Day, to go some way towards meeting church preconditions by releasing a substantial number of internees, easing the surface effect of martial law (including perhaps the curfew) and by showing that it can incorporate Solidarity into the public discussion on the future of trade unions.

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Chinese planning a big reshuffle

Peking, April 26. — Zhao Ziyang, the Chinese Prime Minister, said today a big government reshuffle would be announced shortly to complete the first stage of his plans to streamline China's 20 million-strong bureaucracy.

The New China news agency said Mr Zhao submitted plans for the reshuffle to the standing committee of the National People's Congress, China's Parliament for approval. It quoted him as saying the 52 former ministries and commissions under the State Council (Cabinet) would be reduced to 41 and some deputy prime ministers would be removed.

The Government has already said that the number of deputy prime ministers will be cut from 13 to two. It appeared that Peking was not willing to announce the names of those affected until the plans were approved by the current standing committee meeting. This was expected to end within the next week or so.

Last month, in the first stage of Mr Zhao's restructuring, four ministers were dismissed and several Government departments merged. He said today that any changes not covered by his latest proposals would be mostly carried out within the next month.

Meanwhile President Chao Di Benji of Algeria today began talks with Mr Zhao which are expected to focus on North-South relations and greater cooperation between developing countries.

□ Robert Maxwell, the British publisher said today he plans an English-language version of the works of Mr Deng Xiaoping, the Chinese party leader including what he called a powerful interview with Mr Deng (Reuters reports).

Mr Maxwell said after a week's talks in Peking that he had reached agreement to publish the volume of selected writings and speeches under the Pergamon Press imprint.

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Salvador bishop speaks out

San Salvador. — Mig Arturo Rivera y Damas, El Salvador's acting archbishop, said he was troubled that the right-wing had secured control of the top posts in the country's constituent assembly.

In an address at the Metropolitan Cathedral he said the development had diminished what he called the joy of the Salvadorean people who elected the assembly on March 28 despite left-wing guerrilla gunfire.

There was concern that the assembly could come under conservative pressure to roll back agrarian and nationalisation reforms introduced during the past two years. The church would denounce any attempt to cripple the reforms, and called for them to be continued and deepened.

Kadar arrives in Bonn

Bonn. — Mr Janos Kadar, the Hungarian party leader, arrived here for the first visit by an East European statesman to the West since the military takeover in Poland.

His talks with Herr Helmut Schmidt, the Chancellor, and other West German leaders over the next two days will be dominated by the problems of East-West relations after the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan and the events in Poland.

Mengele 'near to capture'



Newport Beach, California. — Herr Simon Wiesenthal (above), the hunter of Nazi criminals, has told Jewish leaders he was much closer to catching Dr Josef Mengele, the physician reported to have conducted macabre experiments on Jews in Nazi concentration camps.

He said Dr Mengele was moving between Bolivia, Paraguay and Uruguay. "We have two South Americans following him and a \$100,000 (\$55,000) reward out. Anyone can sell him out, even his bodyguards. This money will help us to arrest him and bring him to trial."

Monument to Armenians

The French Government has given approval for a second monument to be built in memory of Armenians killed in the genocide of 1915, a spokesman at the French Interior Ministry said.

The monument will be near the Champs-Élysées. Armenian nationalists accuse the Turks of killing 1.5 million of their countrymen in Turkey in 1915. The Turks dispute the number.

Judges strike

Beirut. — Lebanon's 340 judges have gone on strike for a long-awaited 40 per cent salary increase. They say striking is the only way to get the government to heed their demands, but the strike seems to have little significance here where the enforcement of sentences is often difficult and sometimes impossible.

Volcano erupts

Tokyo. — Mount Asama, a volcano in central Japan, erupted for the first time in nine years and a thin layer of volcanic ash settled over parts of Tokyo, turning white the dark uniforms of policemen on traffic duty. No injuries or damage were reported after the two eruptions.

Hostility feared during Thai visit

From Neil Kelly, Bangkok, April 26

General Prem Tinsulanonda, the Thai Prime Minister, who arrives in Britain tomorrow for an official visit, hopes to talk mainly about trade and investment, but some senior Thai officials fear there may be demonstrations against him because of Thailand's controversial social and political problems.

One official said he hoped the visit would not be marred by hostility aroused by recent publicity about child labour and enforced prostitution in Thailand.

While admitting those abuses did occur, he complained they had been misrepresented in British press and television reports which had been full of hypocrisy. Anyone would think, he said, that such a thing as prostitution did not exist in Britain.

The reports he referred to gave instances of girls as young as 10 being kept prisoner in brothels, and even younger children locked

up to work in "hell factories".

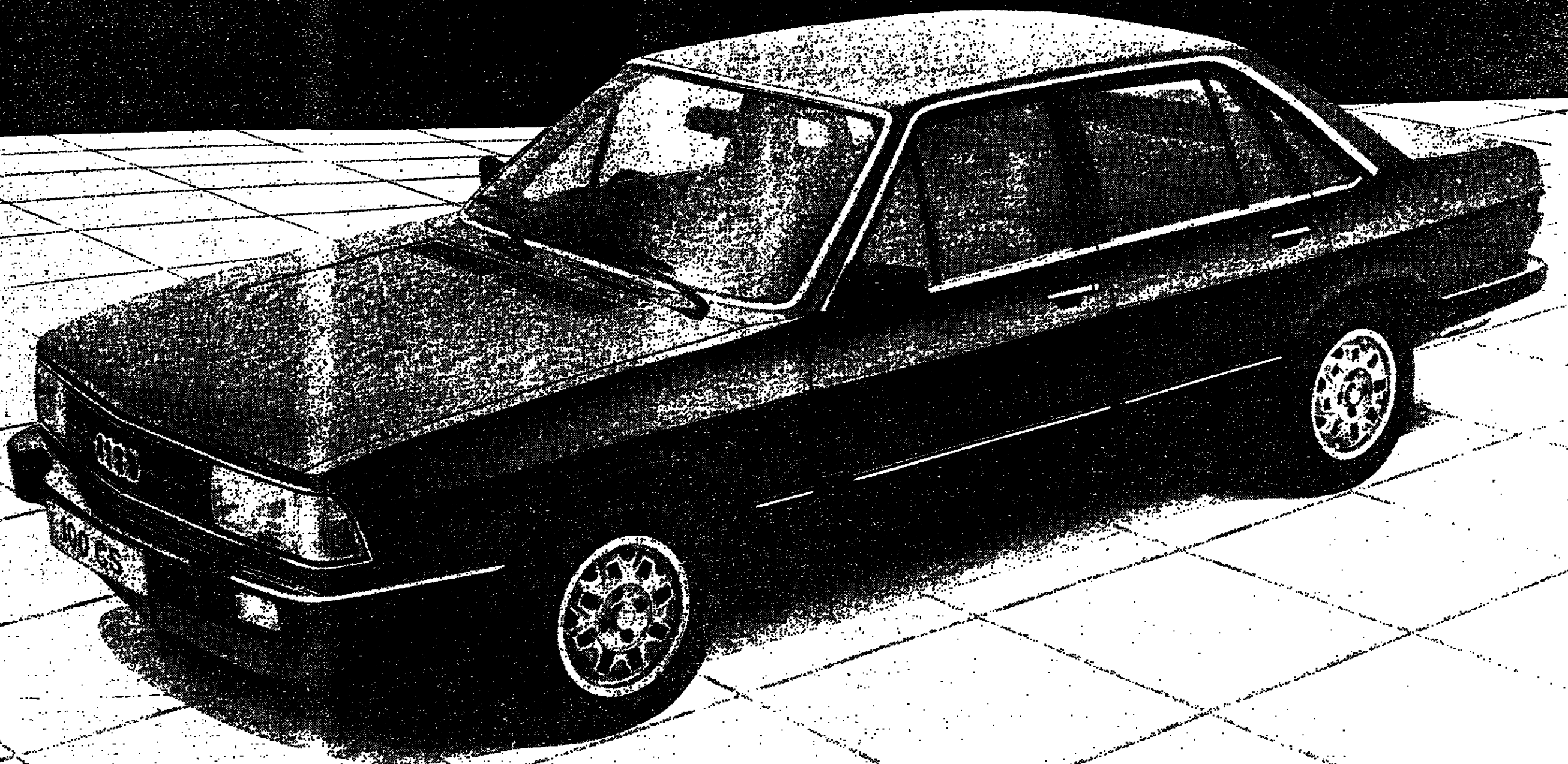
The Thai authorities are also embarrassed by reports that they are holding political prisoners. According to the Lawyers' Association of Thailand, five political prisoners have disappeared in the past year while in custody and 12 others are being held without trial.

General Prem, who became Prime Minister two years ago towards the end of a distinguished military career, has vowed to steer Thailand to full democracy, which should be realized next year when elections will be held for both Houses of Parliament. At present the Upper House is appointed by the Government.

General Prem, who has never stood for election, has not yet said whether he will do so next year. The question is the most crucial in Thai politics.

In Britain General Prem

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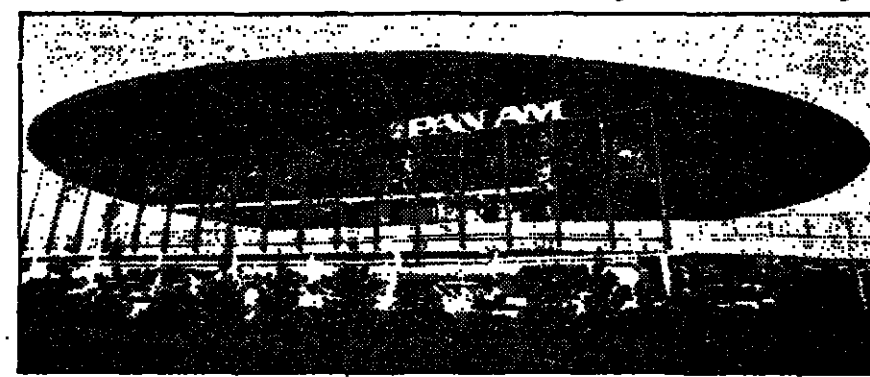
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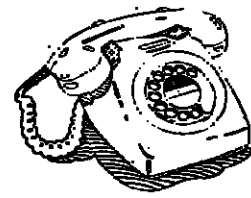
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Fashion: by Suzy Menkes

Snippets

A wardrobe of stylish separates adapted to personal taste is every woman's dream. Dress-makers have some chance of turning that vision into reality with a new series which starts on BBC today.

Caroline Charles is the designer behind the "Weekend Wardrobe" which is built round an easy, collarless jacket that teams with two different skirts — pleated or slim — straight trousers, blouse and camisole.

I was intrigued to see how easily one basic pattern can be adapted — to a short, chic grey flannel jacket, a furry-trimmed herringbone coat, to a man's paisley bathrobe or a glamorous evening jacket. Tip-toeing through the pin cushion of sewing problems is Ann Ladbury, who also presents the book *(Weekend Wardrobe, £4.95 BBC Publications)*.

One person who will not be watching herself and her clothes on screen will be Caroline Charles. She is in Dubai this week, showing her most glamorous gowns to a harem of royal ladies. She did not tell me if she is teaching the shaikas to sew.

The rich and elaborate court textiles in the V & A's India exhibition are such a fashion

inspiration (of which more another day) that I went on to Liberty to look at their fabrics from India today.

The Spring flowers in Kashmir that inspired an entire culture of floral patterns find a faint echo in the creel embroidered Kashmir work in Liberty's Indian market in their basement. Although mainly for furnishings, some of the patterns, like delphinium blue lilies, look more like Renaissance tapestries than Indian textiles and are currently being bought (at £15.50 a metre) for evening jackets or swish-buckling coats.

Dress fabrics include dupion (£10.75 a metre) in more than 50 jewel bright colours from deep rust, to brilliant turquoise to Ganges green. The cream raw silk (£8.50 a metre) is very much in tune with the linen-looks of this summer. Madras checked silks (£9.75 a metre) especially in purples and mauves, are stunning.

Reels of decorative sari braid, bought from a stall in Delhi, would bring the colour of an Indian wedding to the hem of a plain cotton skirt or the neckline of a faded T-shirt.

Belly dancing is an aid to slimming, heightens sexual

pleasure, lifts depression and helps with childbirth, according to a fresh-faced dance teacher, who proved the first theory by a personal demonstration last week.

Three sensuously wobbling ladies on the more familiar belly dancing tradition celebrated the publication of Tina Hobin's book, which shows you how to bring a touch of Eastern magic to the privacy of your own bedroom.

The Complete Veil Routine, the floor movements and a series of exercises show Mrs. Hobin in action and black fishnet tights. Some of the steps look suspiciously like my own weekly dance class designed to flatten and stretch the bulging flesh. It all seems a long way from the symbolic and rhythmic rituals so gracefully described in the Song of Solomon. ("Your belly is a heap of wheat encircled with lilies.")

Various literary figures, including the pin-thin novelist Beryl Bainbridge, gave an impromptu display which proved that belly dancing is not as easy as all that. Ah well... back to the cottage cheese. *Belly Dancing for Health and Relaxation* by Tina Hobin (Duckworth £2.50).



Ra-ra for denim's displacement

Onward, or rather downward, goes the march of the sweats. Children's clothes in fleecy sweatshirt fabric is the latest line to be produced by Norma Kamali, the American designer who has single-handedly turned back the tide of jeans.

A tiny version of the cheer leader's miniskirt that has been taken up by bigger girls as the skirt of the summer goes on sale next week at Browns, who suddenly find their chic shops engulfed by designer sweats. The big names who were quick to endorse the backside of denim have been even swifter to catch on to sweats.

For children, wash and wear clothes in stretchy fabrics that give to growing bodies have already been seen for track suits and casual tops. The flood of jeans and bomber jackets, T-shirts and cords

on the streets during the Easter holidays proves how casual wear has conquered the children's market. Seeing my own children back in flannel blazers and proper shoes after weeks of sweatshirts and sneakers has meant visual culture shock.

The advantage of sweats is that they bridge the gap between casual and formal, especially for little girls, who are more likely to be lured away from jeans by the ra-ra skirt than by anything else on the market.

For grown-ups, sweats are now much more than sportswear. Cut and styled with designer skills, they are outfits to wear in the city or out in the evening as well as to the dance studios and gyms that seem to be the mushroom growth of the 1980s.

The attraction of sweats lies not in their unappealing name but in their unappealing and price. New York is the spawning ground and spiritual home of sweats because most American women have definite ideas about clothes. They are not prepared to be dominated by difficult or awkward garments, and are too busy to attend to the maintenance of linens, silks and suedes, currently the favoured fashion fabrics.

Designer label sweats, although priced by sportswear standards, are within the financial grasp of most women and fit in with a modern lifestyle. That is why you can be sure that where Kamali and Klein lead (hotly pursued by European designers like Claude Montana), the wider fashion world will soon follow.



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LONDON FESTIVAL BALLET
Tosca, 10.30, 12.00, 2.40, 5.58
COVENT GARDEN
Tosca, 10.30, 12.00, 2.40, 5.58
THE ROYAL BALLET
Tosca, 10.30, 12.00, 2.40, 5.58
WELSH NATIONAL OPERA
Tosca, 10.30, 12.00, 2.40, 5.58

CONCERTS

BARBICAN HALL, Barbican Centre
10.30, 12.00, 2.40, 5.58
LONDON FESTIVAL BALLET
Tosca, 10.30, 12.00, 2.40, 5.58
COVENT GARDEN
Tosca, 10.30, 12.00, 2.40, 5.58
THE ROYAL BALLET
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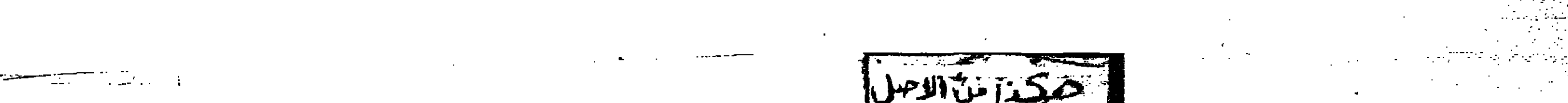
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ART GALLERIES

ANTHONY D'OFFAY, 9 & 12 Dorset
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ANTHONY D'OFFAY, 9 & 12 Dorset



Why Argentina's generals need the Falklands

A journalist on *La Prensa*, the leading Argentine newspaper, explains the junta's thinking

Buenos Aires. Freedom can be a "secret" military operation, such as Argentina's invasion of the Falklands, have been so repeatedly predicted in the press. The Argentine government's intentions, and the reasons behind them, first appeared in my political column in the Buenos Aires newspaper *La Prensa* in January.

A few weeks later, when talks began in New York, the Argentine Foreign Minister, Mr Costa Mendez, expressly said that if Britain refused to recognize Argentine sovereignty, Argentina would resort to "other methods". This clearly spelt out the possibility of military intervention.

General Galtieri and other members of the government also privately warned members of the US government, some of whom, we understand, were sensitive to Argentina's motivations.

As Mr Reagan admitted, the trouble was that nobody — not the Soviet Union, least of all the British Foreign Office — believed that Argentina would fulfil its stated intention.

This explains, in part, London's over-reaction to a military action planned — perhaps uniquely in history — in such a way as not to harm or damage the enemy's men and material in any way, as in fact happened, at a cost of several Argentine lives.

What do the islands represent to Argentina? Whitehall claims that the recovery of the islands by Argentina is merely an expression of the military government's wish to consolidate its own position. True enough, the government has been affected by social unrest and a collapsing economy.

Perhaps certain sectors in government may have seen in this affair a way of staying in power, but the government also knew that the possibilities of total success, of obtaining something more than recognition of sovereignty, were limited and that in consequence the operation would do little towards their continued survival.

Nevertheless, if one wishes to explain their decision in terms of sheer egotism, perhaps one could say they tried to avoid something worse, like a war with Chile over the Southern territories, or a process of increasing tension with the Vatican, Chile and the United States over the Beagle Channel issue, to an unbearable degree. Because such a war or such tensions would — it is convenient to bear this in mind — not only endanger the generals' personal or sector interests, but also endanger Argentina's territorial integrity to a greater extent than the present conflict.

Because this is, in a nutshell, the basic objective behind the immediate recovery of the islands. This is also why the government decision is backed by people who, like myself, have been for years openly and firmly critical of the military government's performance, of lack of performance, particularly in respect of human rights.

If Argentina, the country with the largest south Atlantic coastline, cannot dispose right away of a strategic platform enabling it to participate — as it stresses, participate — to a certain extent in the region through which much of the West's oil and power supplies have to go, or to put it another way, a presence in the Euro-American defence

mechanism against Soviet penetration — and just by the South Pole and Antarctica — it would soon lose its southern territories.

For Argentina, this is important enough to justify its encounter with Britain. The alternative would be a much longer and much bloodier war with Chile, or with Chile plus Brazil. This could happen before very long and could conceivably mean the end of Argentina as an independent state, or at least its definitive international isolation and its exclusion from an area which is indispensable to the development of the human race in the next century.

If London doesn't see things that way, it will never be able to evaluate the real significance of its conflict with Argentina, nor ready this country is to fight. Nor will it be able to evaluate the cost of beating Argentina, even if it can do it, which is not at all certain.

Naturally, one of these considerations about Argentina's needs would be valid without the backing of international law. However, the islands were part of the Spanish Empire, which Argentina inherited after its war of independence. So much so that in 1833, when Britain occupied the territory by force, there was a Buenos Aires-based administration operating there. From that moment, and more insistently after the beginning of this century, Argentina has been demanding from Britain the return of this part of its sovereignty.

The islands, only 400 miles from Argentina's coastline, are a geographical continuation of the Argentine mainland. This history and geography give Argentina a right that can be claimed by no other nation, either South American or European.

This is why in 1966 the United Nations ordered London and Buenos Aires to negotiate the "discolonization" of the islands. Great Britain, which can only invoke the obsolete right of conquest, claims, however, that the alleged rights of the "Kelpers" or islanders, are predominant. However, this is against the letter and spirit of the United Nations resolution of 1966, as Britain invokes not the "interests" of those settlers but their "wishes". But the resolution refers to "interests".

Has in fact not even Britain recognized that with the logistic and economic support of Argentina the "Kelpers" would be able to support themselves?

The solution to all this is easy to find in the framework of Argentine sovereignty and the defence of the individual, cultural and economic rights of those 300 British families. There are 17,000 British nationals, plus about 100,000 of their descendants, living in Argentina. They are, in a sense, the people best fitted to bear witness that this country is far more than just a transitory military government.

Not should unfortunate historical circumstances hide the fact that this country is one of Latin America's most outstanding manifestations of the "best European traditions and culture, including the British way of life."

We appeal to the practical and realistic sense and international responsibility of the British people and their leaders, and their profound comprehension of world events, for them to halt a war which we consider to be not only absurd but also unfair.

Jesus Iglesias Rouco
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Hanging: the case for letting a jury decide

Next month MPs will have a free vote on whether to reintroduce capital punishment. Nicholas Fairbairn argues in favour of hanging as a general deterrent to crime

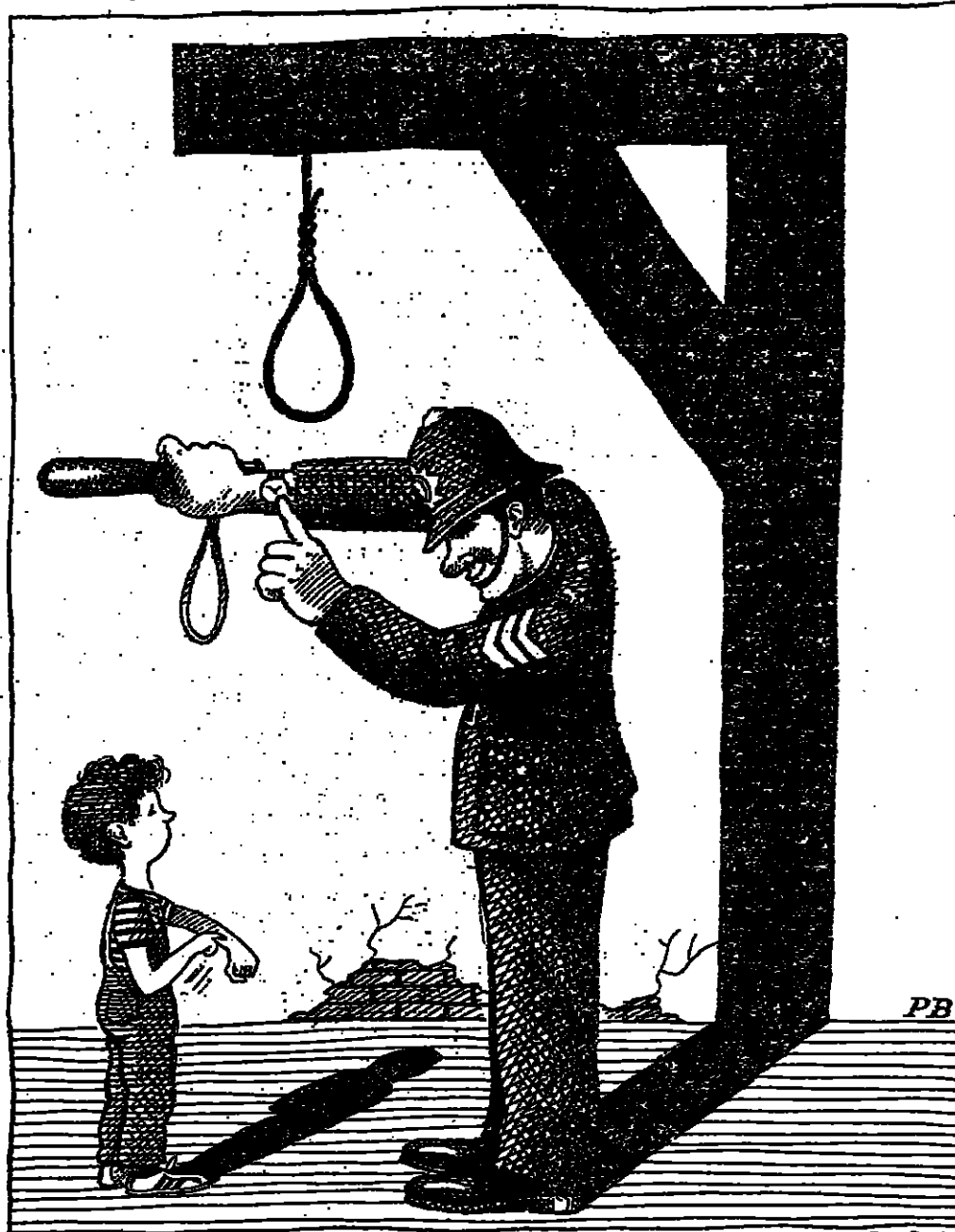
Capital punishment is once again a political issue. And the call is that there should be mandatory capital punishment for certain categories of murder; or, to put it another way, for certain categories of assault which happen to result in the death of a victim. It is a question of a prison officer or a policeman. If capital punishment is to be available, why should it only be available as a punishment for murder whether of all or any kind?

After all, if it is to be a deterrent, it is a deterrent which depends on the result of an assault rather than its intention or recklessness. It is worth therefore looking at the history of the supreme punishment in this country where there have of course always been two parallel systems of law, the law of Scotland and the law of England.

In both countries both before and for a century and a half after their union as one kingdom, a very large number of crimes attracted the possibility though not the inevitability of the death penalty. This was in great part because there was no police force, so punishment was the only deterrent. As the police force developed, the number of crimes for which the death penalty could be imposed and the number of occasions upon which it was imposed was reduced, until eventually the list dwindled to arson, in the Royal Dockyards, treason (for each of which it still applies) and murder.

Since the wooden ship was replaced by the metal ship and the succession to the throne ceased to be a matter of doubt or dispute, in the nineteenth century the only crime effectively left as punishable by death was murder. Quite wrongly but understandably it came to be assumed that this was the application of the *lex talionis*, the old Jewish law of an eye for an eye and a life for a life.

In fact the last three crimes for which the death penalty was retained were crimes against the State, although it was imposed only for crimes against the subjects of the State. Accord-



ingly, the death penalty eked out its last century not as a deterrent but as a retribution. Until its abolition it was imposed in practice for murder only — a crime which until the time of the abolition of the death penalty was almost always committed by non-criminals for a reason upon victims whom they knew. Murder was a crime of passion, envy, emotion, weakness or gain.

Until the abolition of the death penalty we hanged frustrated or impassioned lovers, would-be inheritors, unhappy spouses and almost any ordinary criminals. But the effect of the existence of the death penalty was huge on everybody except those few romantic squints who were its victims. The conundrum of the death penalty was that it had little effect if

any in deterring those who actually committed murder, like Ruth Ellis, Doctor Ruxton, Heath or High, none of whom were ordinary criminals, but it had an immense effect on the ordinary criminal who did not commit murder and paused before committing assault.

When the death penalty existed, the law had been in the most junior court in the land the juvenile tipped in before the justice of the peace for, while he could not be hanged, for the petty offence with which he was charged, he knew he was in the chamber of life and death. And criminals did not, except very occasionally, either take life or commit assaults which might result in death. The abolition of the death penalty removed that immense deterrent.

I started practice in 1957 in Scotland. There were then fewer indicted cases in all of the ten high courts in Scotland per year than there are now in one of them per month.

The geometric progression started with the abolition of the death penalty. Of course it was accelerated by the permissive society, of which Roy Jenkins was the proud progenitor, and by consequential guilt legislation and various flights from the security of discipline and the ethic of right and wrong.

Television and other matters have no doubt helped on the generation and incubation of current criminality. But that the death penalty acted as a general deterrent to the commission of crime I have no doubt; if it is to return, its justification is that it is

deterrent to criminals of all kinds in the commission of crimes of all kinds and not that it is retribution for taking the life of one category of citizen or another.

The strange fact of the death penalty is that it deters crimes in general rather than the crimes for which it was later mandated, so why should we not concentrate on that characteristic — in considering its reintroduction? For the fact is that murder, though appalling, is a senseless and a senseless act. It is now usually the unintended result of random assault by criminals, whereas when the death penalty existed it was almost always the intended result of intended assault by non-criminals.

There can be no question but that the majority of people in this country want the death penalty in some form to be available. It is the people who demand the death penalty, and it is the people who form our juries. In my opinion, the death penalty should be available for any crime of indictment in the High Court, and the Crown should be permitted to mark any indictment capital and leave it to the jury to bring a verdict of capital or non-capital rape, murder, attempted murder, arson, terrorism or burglary.

In this way I believe the death penalty would have the maximum deterrent effect with the minimum number of executions, if any. No criminal might be hanged but he would never know. I trust juries and I do not believe that they would ever bring in a verdict of a capital crime unless the evidence was irrefutable and the circumstances abominable.

Now it may be said that punishment is a matter for the court and not the jury. Yes, in theory, but practically the most cases of the death penalty, that is, manifestly not so, particularly after the Homicide Act. The juries could always avoid or impose the death penalty by bringing in a verdict of manslaughter or murder or accepting a defence of diminished responsibility or finding that the murder was or was not in pursuance of theft.

For those who say that the death penalty for anything less than murder would be wrong, let us look at the case of manslaughter. Michael Greaves, when he turned suddenly in the car for that, Hauray was hanged. But after Greaves's death he raped Valerie Storie at gun point and emptied his gun into his body in order to

eradicate her evidence, leaving her a living paraplegic.

He could not have been hanged for that, but I believe that the crime for which he did hang was infinitely less frightful than the crime for which he could not be hanged and I am certain that a jury would have taken the same view. Why should a man who throws a hand grenade into a crowded public place if he merely created fifty blind quadriplegics while the man who throws a stone through a sitting room window dies if he causes a death? The criterion for which the death penalty should be available is not whether the lives of or dies but whether the conduct was such as to demonstrate a disposition depraved enough to be regardless of the consequences to the victim, be it rape, mugging or assault of any kind the jury hold that to be so, and are so certain of the evidence that they are willing to recommend an irreversible penalty.

I have appeared for the defence in capital murder trials, and in innumerable trials for non-capital murder and other indictable offences, both for the defence and latterly for the prosecution. In particular I appeared for Patrick McLean, who was wrongly convicted of murder and sentenced to hang, and for John Preece who was wrongly convicted of murder and released after eight years imprisonment.

Under the old law both would have been wrongly hanged. Why then, of all people, can I propose or contemplate the return of the supreme penalty? The answer is simple. If the supreme penalty were available and not mandatory, and available for any indictable crime of assault whether it ended in death or not, I am certain that the jury would choose, where necessary, to hang neither McLean nor Preece guilty of a capital crime.

I am certain that only in cases where the evidence was overwhelming and irrefutable and the crime was frightful in concept and execution, would a jury bring in a verdict of capital crime.

But it would be a risk so universal that serious crime would not be under-taking.

The author is Conservative MP for Kinross and West Perthshire and was Solicitor General for Scotland from 1979 to 1982.

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More religious than we think

The average Englishman thinks he is more religious than the average Englishman. This conundrum throws a ray of light on the state of the nation's soul. The perception of reality and reality itself are two different things. The English are far more religious than they themselves realize.

Last autumn virtually identical polls were conducted in nine European countries, to discover what values and beliefs Europeans hold in common, and how they vary. Asked "How important is God in your life?" the British answered more positively than the French, the West Germans, the Dutch, and the Danes. Asked to endorse the First Commandment ("Thou shalt have no other Gods before me"), the British scored worse only than the Irish and the Italians. Six out of 10 of the sample from Great Britain said yes to the question: "Would you say you are a religious person?"

This surprising image of the British as a predominantly religious nation is in contrast to the nation's

received view of itself as secular. Indeed, the same poll showed this clearly. For 48 per cent of the British think that the religious belief of the majority of the population is declining, but only 18 per cent in the lives of other people. Both figures cannot be true if, as Gallup insists, the sample was representative.

These results are particularly relevant to the Pope visit to Britain at the end of May, as another more recent poll demonstrates. For there is an almost perfect correlation between how religious a person is (or judges himself to be) and how keenly he awaits the Pope. The keenest of all are the regular churchgoers, virtually irrespective of the denomination they subscribe to, but the same rule operates among non-churchgoers.

There is a substantial proportion of the population which does not go often to church, but thinks of itself as religious. And if this interpretation of the statistics is right, it indicates that the Pope can reasonably expect a very large and receptive British audience

when he comes. But the British themselves have hardly yet begun to realize it.

The face-to-face encounter between this large religiously-minded non-church-going sector of the population and the world's leading exponent of what might be called Total Religion, the Pope himself, will be full of conundrums. The two sides of the encounter represent very different ways of being religious, and there can be no guarantees in advance that they will understand each other. The Gallup investigation into the fundamental values of European culture took statistical inquiry into areas it had not visited before, but left many questions unanswered. It seems to be the case, for example, that the six out of 10 of the population who say they are religious would want also to say that they are Christian.

Indeed, "religious" being a "boo" word and "Christian" still a "hurray" word, the total religiously-minded "Christians" may well be considerably higher. But does this laid-back style of faith include belief in such propo-

sitions as the Trinity, the divinity of Christ, or the Bible as the Word of God? Probably not "doctrine" and "dogma" are not English words of approval, and the tendency in the religious sector is to leave itself undefined. "Theology" is also not a word of praise that springs naturally to English lips.

There is a fair quantity of ignorance and mistaken understanding of even the simple basics. There was a lady reporter at a press conference given by an Anglican woman priest from America some years ago, who asked this correspondent for a whispered explanation of the term "Holy Communion" which had come up in the context.

The largest gap between the Pope's understanding of religion and that generally held by the British, however, is about the importance of "the church" in religious life. The Roman position is straightforward, namely that Jesus Christ founded an institution which was to continue both his work and his presence on earth, and that institution, more or less,

is today the church the Pope heads.

The non-Roman Catholic British, "once a year" church-goers, who make up the largest identifiable religious group in the country, have no such vision of the church's origin and mission. The most likely reply, asked who founded the Church of England, would probably be "Henry VIII." And no phrase is more characteristic of British religion than the saying "You can worship God wherever you like," meaning that churches and clergymen are all very well for weddings and funerals, but the man in the street does not have much time to spare for them.

A survey once asked the public to arrange various professions in order of esteem. The list would have been headed by "police" (Journalists came bottom, along with publicists.) But another poll asked the public whether they would take a personal problem to a clergyman, for advice. Even among regular churchgoers the figure was minute.

This ambivalence towards

the clergy is paralleled by an equal ambivalence towards the church. It is a common grumble among churchmen that many of those who would like to see the church "near the place" are the first to mount public protests when church buildings are selected for demolition.

But such a clamour is also a true expression of the "churchless Christianity" of the majority of the British people. The expression "of E" stands almost for a separate denomination from the Church of England, so little has it to do with that church's daily life. It is not the anti-clericalism born of bitter ideological hostility that one finds on the Continent. But anti-clericalism in this way before, and it is still the anti-clericalism of refusing to take the church and its ministry very seriously.

So will it take the Pope very seriously? It has never been confronted by Total Religion in this way before, and it is still no precedent whatever on which to base a judgment.

Clifford Longley
Religious Affairs Correspondent

Somewhere in Mayfair, a whiff of Soyer stew

Since we seem to be at war it is reassuring to know there are people around who can cope in emergencies. Yesterday formidably resourceful members of the Women's Royal Volunteer Service went through their paces for the benefit of the press.

In a mock-up of an improvised rest centre hastily set up in their Old Park Lane headquarters, almost a score of green-clad volunteers regaled visiting journalists with the tricks of their caring trade: paper clips, a box of Price's white wax candles; string; pencils; armbands and assorted notices.

Responding to the unexpected emergency of the water supply drying up, they produced lashings of scalding vegetable soup and mugs of sweet tea with a gas cylinder and a field boiler.

We were registered, shown where to obtain our emergency clothing and escorted on to a windswept balcony to inspect "the Soyer". This is a ruggedly sturdy stove with a smokestack chimney that can cook up to 160 stew-type meals in the middle of nowhere on a fuel of anything from broken chairs to cardboard boxes. Originally designed at the time of the Crimean war, it is still going strong.

"That," said the guide, pointing to an ash-faded figure under a grey blanket, "is our Mr Dobson." Dobson, one of the 9,000 male workers with the WRVS, had volunteered to play a

casualty for the Red Cross lady present. He remained resolutely inert for the duration of the visit. Given the relentless competence of his female company, PHS could sympathize.

Rare visitors

Sizewell in Suffolk, home of a large nuclear power station, is a full of twitchers, the local name for birdwatchers. The ornithologists have been turning up in large numbers to gaze at a local cow pasture, currently inhabited by an as yet unidentified small bird.

Derek Moore, Suffolk's official bird recorder, believes the bird could be either a pine bunting or a rock bunting. Both are extremely rare visitors to Britain. Sizewell had a more substantial attraction for twitchers only recently, when a white tailed eagle made the village its temporary home.

Toilet roll call

Previews start tonight at the Half Moon Theatre for a comedy set in and around the lavatories of London. Written, obviously, to make people laugh like a drain, it has in fact succeeded in putting off an uncommonly large and distinguished number of agents who were at one time keen to make a go of it, but eventually decided it would not be convincing.

Nigel Williams, who received the Most Promising Playwright Award for *Class Enemy*, wrote his toilet tissue of satire and farce, W.C.P.C., five years ago. In its original form it was to have

THE TIMES DIARY

American business executives are rushing to pick up tips from a Japanese writer who killed his first enemy at 13. The book, *Warrior*, by Miyamoto Musashi, a Book of Five Rings. It was translated by Victor Harris, a British Museum expert, and first published in English in 1974, primarily for martial arts

enthusiasts. It has become a cult in America with more than 100,000 hardback copies sold, since the word spread that this was the book Japanese businessmen use as their guide to business practice.

Time magazine says: "On Wall Street when Musashi talks people listen". Indeed with tactics typical of the newly fashionable ferocity, Overlook Press who published the Harris translation in America, are suing Bantam Books for \$1m for attempting to produce a rival version. Allison and Busby publish the first paperback edition here on Thursday. So watch out.

been put on at the Royal Court, then it was considered by the National Theatre, Michael White and H. M. Tennant. There were firm plans for the Nottingham Playhouse until the board got a look in, and the playwright decided he did not want a run as far away as Liverpool.

Williams says the directors who have been interested in the play read like a roll call of the British theatre, including Nicholas Wright, John Dexter and Ronald Eyre. "It was a big job getting the second act right," he admits. "Even quite a few theatre critics have had a hard time of it." The plot concerns an ingenious young policeman assigned to the vice squad, and requires toilets on stage though Williams says: "I do not think the Half Moon can actually afford to put pans in the

cubicles." The attraction of the play, Williams thinks, is "that lavatories are hysterically funny, unless you are terribly, terribly grown up."

Book blockade

Jeffrey Archer, the former Conservative MP and best-selling author, and Deborah Owen, literary agent and wife of the former foreign secretary, Dr David Owen, have declared their own blockade of Argentina. Deborah Owen was negotiating Spanish-South American rights to Archer's new book *The Prodigal Daughter* when the Falklands crisis began. The prospective publishers were the large Argentine house, Emicé. "I immediately put the whole thing on hold and sought instruc-

tions from my author," she says. "Jeffrey very firmly told me he did not want to negotiate to continue. The book is one that would have appealed strongly to Argentinians."

Would-be MPs

William Rodgers treated some half-dozen pressmen to a tour of the SDP's Cowley Street headquarters yesterday, in the course of which he confided that one difficulty was that the party has more would-be candidates than it knows what to do with. As the group prepared to return to Parliament with souvenir mugs, it emerged that one of them was not a journalist at all. He was a prospective candidate awaiting interview who had tagged along in the hope of finding where he should go.

Lifelong winters

Women in Iceland have an average lifespan of 79.3 years, the longest in the world, according to researchers who have spent 17 years of the allotted time studying the life expectancy of others. Norwegian women do almost as well, with an average of 79 years.

Scandinavia also leads in life expectancy for men. It may have something to do with the long winters. The leaders for men are Iceland, Sweden, Japan and Norway, where men live 6.6 years less than women.

The researchers found no proof that heredity determines how long one lives. "The aged among us," they are reported as

concluding, "are those who have shown moderation, are tranquil, and have an interest in people and the future."



After the works of Shakespeare, *Alice in Wonderland* and *Through the Looking Glass* are the most translated works of fiction in the English language. There are versions in 60 different languages, including Esperanto, shorthand, aborigines and Japanese.

Lindsay Fulcher, the society's chairman, said: "The 'How Carroll' game and wordplays translate is a mystery."

Out of habitat

Sir Christopher Lever is a conservationist who specializes in the study of species translated to strange environments. He is beginning to think he could make a case study of himself, so conservationists which bid him attend official functions where he would be out of place.

They are really intended for Sir Christopher Lever, managing director of Russell & Meyer, who is this year's Lord Mayor of London.

Lever says he is always keen to accept, but his wife makes him send the invitations back. Thus he is encouraged to press on with his books about mammals and birds which have settled down successfully in unfamiliar surroundings, without exposing himself to the rigours of a civil dignitary's social life.

I got one of the answers to my own quiz wrong yesterday. It was not sales of Scotch whisky that fell by a third last year, but the production.

PHS

Plant rescue
From Mr H. P.
Some 1,400
rescue plants
are being
sold at
Research Council
herbs and
annuals
selection
at
Aston Park
The rescue
plants are
a combination
of annuals,
perennials,
herbs and
shrubs. They
will come from
the National
Herbary and
British and
foreign
plants of the
country.



P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

THE ISSUE IS THE LAW

The focus of the crisis is now sharpening. It is nearly four weeks since the Security Council demanded the immediate withdrawal of Argentine forces which had invaded the Falkland Islands. Far from complying with that resolution Argentina has been reinforcing its garrison, indicating not even an attitude of "benign neglect" to the United Nations, but one of open defiance. On the other side, the Task Force, in South Georgia, and in the maritime exclusion zone which it has created around the Falklands, has shown that where it has the capacity to effect an Argentine withdrawal or at least a limitation of its presence, it does so.

Mrs Thatcher was not in an expansive mood in the Commons yesterday about where we go from here. She was naturally reluctant to have the intensification of every negotiating position held up for the agonised inspection of honourable members. Britain's purpose is to seek Argentina's compliance with resolution 502, but that is not the only purpose. Under article 51 of the Charter the British Government has the right to defend its sovereignty and administration of the Islands; and it has a duty to do so on behalf of its citizens, as much as under the more general requirement to uphold international law.

However, though Mrs Thatcher was not that explicit, certain things become clearer. The first is that Argentina's defiance of the United Nations, and its behaviour in negotiation with Mr Haig, show that no negotiation with it can or should be contemplated without the continuous and cumulative backing of force of all kinds — economic and military. However, economic sanctions, welcome though they are, are slow moving. The military options must therefore be ever present and ever pressed. The task force is under the closest political control. It does not have a momentum of its own except in the sense that the oncoming winter in the southern Atlantic will inhibit the full exercise of its capabilities. So it is important,

as a background to a continuing search for a solution through negotiation, for the Task Force to show that it can put the Argentine presence on the Falklands in total quarantine, both with regard to air and sea. Air supply must be prevented. There are a number of ways to achieve that, all of which would be consistent with the doctrine of minimum force so triumphantly demonstrated in the operation on South Georgia. Minimum force must be the governing operational doctrine, as it always has been. But the quarantine must be achieved.

The second aspect concerns Britain's negotiating position. We must remember that the root of this crisis springs from Argentina's claim to sovereignty over the Falklands. It is clear therefore that, in the Argentine mind, there will be no satisfactory solution to the crisis which does not recognise the validity of that claim — even though it has only now been established by force because Argentina decided it was not getting anywhere through the usual process of resolving jurisdictional questions under international law. The question is: Why was Argentina not getting anywhere in that process? Because Argentina refused on previous occasions to submit to the jurisdiction of the International Court at The Hague, where such matters are argued.

In 1955 Britain sought to take Argentina and Chile to the Court over infringement of its jurisdiction in the Falkland Dependencies. The attempt failed because Argentina and Chile declined to accept the jurisdiction of The Hague. Had there been any vestige of evidence that Argentina has accepted that jurisdiction in some other issue, there would now be sufficient grounds to cover a British application in this case. However even that procedure would not be entirely satisfactory. There have been five recent cases involving the non-appearance of a defendant government. It puts the Court in difficulties; its authority is diminished; and the quality of its proceedings is poor.

ings prejudiced by its seeming to take some account of the "noises off" from the recalcitrant party.

It therefore appears that Argentina is guilty of a double intransigence — both in flouting the law through aggression and in refusing to use agreed legal procedures for resolving just such an issue. It is attempting to exercise a veto over the means by which the issue of the sovereignty of the Falklands is settled. That would be intolerable in peaceful circumstances. It is doubly so when the veto is rudely asserted by armed aggression.

Whatever temporary arrangements can be made to secure the withdrawal of troops, the question of sovereignty should only be considered "negotiable" in the context of an agreed reference to the International Court at The Hague. To agree to anything less than that would be to reward an aggression. The consequences of such a "reward" in Latin America itself — let alone the rest of the world — would be incalculable since many Latin American frontiers are of recent origin and have only been defined by force, without any more substantive authority. The frontier between Mexico and the United States, for instance, dates from 1848 when the United States took the Pacific South West by force from Mexico as it gained its independence. It has virtually lost control of that frontier now, under the pressure of mass illegal Mexican immigration, and the frontier is frequently the subject of Mexican irredentist claims.

It is inconceivable that the United States would entertain any Mexican claim on its Pacific South-West, though in fact such a claim has a much better basis than the Argentine claim on the Falklands. Yet that is the prospect which would be opened up by the sovereignty of the Falklands being decided, or fudged, in some smoke-filled room at the State Department, as a result simply of the Argentine aggression. That is the principle which is still at stake; and it will not, it cannot, go away.

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PUTTING HEALTH SECOND

Ever since the local authority manual workers secured pay rises of 7.8 per cent in December, it has been clear that it would be a difficult negotiating round in the public sector. The tension now building up in the NHS follows directly from that ill-considered capitulation by the Labour majority on the local authority associations. Today Mr Norman Fowler is meeting representatives of NHS employees, Cohse is already mounting selective stoppages, and other unions are considering how to follow suit next month.

The unions are asking for 12 per cent, while the Government is allocating funds to the service on the assumption that pay for most of its workers will rise by no more than four per cent, with five per cent for the ambulance men and 6.8 per cent for the nurses. Even for the latter, the offer falls well short of inflation, which has been 12 per cent over the past year, though it has now dropped to ten per cent. The nurses, who saw part of last year's rise cancelled out by changes in their hours of work, can call upon much public sympathy in any dispute. In some areas like geriatric and mental hospitals, there are some signs of difficulties in recruitment. But wages account for 70 per cent of all NHS costs. The control of public spending is so central to the Government's strategy that it cannot make more than minor concessions on the claim, presented for the first time

on a concerted basis by the major health service unions, without jeopardising all that it seeks to achieve.

Last month's attempt to detach the nurses from the common front by raising their offer seems not to have been fully successful. The Royal College of Nursing never goes on strike, as a matter of policy. Many other individual nurses feel too much sense of responsibility to patients in their charge to threaten their welfare. But some other workers in the service, working less closely in contact with patients, have shown in recent years that they feel very little inhibited by this factor. In 1979, the worst year for industrial conflict in the history of the NHS, almost half its employees were involved in stoppages, more than half a million working days were lost, and patients suffered much avoidable distress. Partly as a result of the political conflicts over pay beds earlier in the 1970s, and partly as a result of wider changes in public attitudes, the instinct to regard the patient's interests as paramount has been weakened. It is possible to overstate the change. In most recent years, the number of days lost per 1,000 employees in the NHS has usually been less than a tenth of the corresponding figure for Britain as a whole. But in the sixties it was often a hundredth or less.

For the time being, the action taken in support of this

year's pay claim has been restricted — two-hour stoppages, bans on non-emergency admissions, bans on private patients, and so on (the last, of course, helping to steer funds from the NHS to the private hospitals). A policy of all-out industrial action would alienate public sympathy very quickly. But even limited action designed to disturb the smooth running of the health service is all too likely to do harm to patients. It is seldom possible to point to individual instances, because the course of an illness is never fully predictable, but in practice it is so. Apart from the bewilderment and fear that almost inevitably result, full investigation and treatment of patients who are more seriously ill than they seem will be delayed. The distinction between emergency and non-emergency admissions is only a preliminary and approximate one. Waiting lists will grow, and the backlog may still be being worked off many months after the dispute has been settled (after the 1979 outbreak, national waiting lists grew 70,000 longer, and did not come down to their earlier levels for more than a year). The NHS will be given another shove towards the status of a second-class service by the very people who most vocally object to that possibility. It is simply not possible to mount a strong campaign of industrial action in the NHS without doing lasting damage both to its ideals and its customers.

What must be avoided is a situation in which sub-fertile couples who might benefit by the advances of science are prevented from doing so by an arbitrary ban on the use of medical treatment because of fears about the possible consequences of one small development or possible use of a technique in those areas.

Members of our association are not against controls over the matter of AID they would positively welcome certain kinds of controls. What they are afraid of is that such controls will be exercised without due consideration for what they see as their biological urge to have children.

Yours faithfully,

PETER HOUGHTON, Founder, JEREMY WARD, National Organiser, Birmingham Settlement, 318 Summer Lane, Birmingham, April 26.

Question of women in the ministry

From the Warden of Latimer House

Sir, Your provocative third leader on "Women in the Church" (April 22) cannot pass without comment.

It is indeed true that "the ordination of women is right in principle and is bound to come", then your logic might be impeccable. It is, of course, the conventional wisdom of contemporary feminism that the ordination of women is right in principle. However, the Christian position is that God created men and women as complementary but different. Inasmuch as they need each other, they are equal, but inasmuch as they are different, they should not try to fulfil all the same roles.

Women themselves are now, in many parts of the world, rebelling against the conventional wisdom on the subject and insisting that they be allowed to be women and not fake men. There is reason to think that this movement will become more and more widespread, since it is founded in the realities of human nature as well as in those of divine revelation.

The relations between Anglican churches which ordain women priests and those which do not are bound to cause certain tensions, but the bishops of the Anglican churches agreed at the 1978 Lambeth Conference to respect each others' discipline in this matter, and it is this sensible agreement which the Capetian bishop is now complaining about.

Nevertheless, the agreement will have to continue for, along with the three Anglican churches that now have women priests, at least 11 have decided (at any rate for the present) not to.

If any of these 11 were to change their canons so as to allow women priests from abroad to minister in their midst they would be unable to resist pressure to start ordaining women priests for themselves. It is for this reason that the first two of the process must be firmly resisted.

Yours faithfully,
R. T. BECKWITH, Warden, Latimer House, 131 Banbury Road, Oxford, April 22.

Aid for the childless

From Mr Peter Houghton and Dr Jeremy Ward

Sir, On behalf of the National Association for the Childless we welcome your sensible and timely leader (April 19) on the issues surrounding man's control of his own reproductive processes: AID and extracorporeal fertilisation techniques.

As representatives of an association of sub-fertile people we have already written to the Secretary of State suggesting that a royal commission should be set up to examine this whole area. We feel that it is essential, not only for a whole, but also for the childless, that the debate on these issues should be as public as possible.

What must be avoided is a situation in which sub-fertile couples who might benefit by the advances of science are prevented from doing so by an arbitrary ban on the use of medical treatment because of fears about the possible consequences of one small development or possible use of a technique in those areas.

Members of our association are not against controls over the matter of AID they would positively welcome certain kinds of controls. What they are afraid of is that such controls will be exercised without due consideration for what they see as their biological urge to have children.

Yours faithfully,

PETER HOUGHTON, Founder, JEREMY WARD, National Organiser, Birmingham Settlement, 318 Summer Lane, Birmingham, April 26.

Surgeon's hungry allies

From Professor B. W. Payton

Sir, Although I can appreciate how other agents have displaced me from the current uses of leeches in medicine from the front page (March 17), in times such as the present, when the mother country would get it, I need all the support I can get. I was surprised to see in the West press an AAP report which suggests "The British leech is nowhere in the running — or in the sucking — in modern medical applications." As a recently hatched Canadian I would like to reassure my previously fellow countrymen that the situation is not as bad as reported.

The present situation in Britain is that *Hirudo medicinalis* is the commonest, but I can assure you that it still exists. Last year Dr Roy Sawyer, of Penclawd, Glamorgan, a world expert on the biology of leeches, informed me that much to his delight he had been bitten by one (in the Principality) and showed me a photograph of the bite mark to prove it. He also reported that he knows of a pond in the Home Counties where this species may still be found, but, fearing no doubt for their safety, he declined to be more specific as to their location.

Yours faithfully,
B. W. PAYTON, Medical Audio-Visual Services, Faculty of Medicine, Memorial University of Newfoundland, St John's, Newfoundland, Canada, April 17.

Chronic disorders

From Miss Charlotte Hofton

Sir, Has Mr Seigel (April 21) ever tried to unwrap a piece of sticking plaster with the fingers that have just been lacerated while endeavouring to open a tin of sardines?

Yours faithfully,

CHARLOTTE HOFTON, 107 Albert Palace Mansions, Lurline Gardens, W11, April 21.

Judgment needed on Falklands issue

From Lord Mishcon

Sir, Many will have read with considerable interest, as I did, Sir Derek Walker-Smith's letter (April 24) on the Falkland Islands issue being a case for the International Court at The Hague.

That our forces have actually engaged the Argentines and their Foreign Minister has said that "negotiations" are at least temporarily in abeyance, then you might have thought that it becomes even more necessary for a clear unequivocal statement to be made by HM Government that subject to prior withdrawal of the Argentine troops in compliance with UN Resolution 502 we are prepared for our part to have the issue of the sovereignty of the Falkland Islands submitted to the International Court for adjudication.

Indeed, I ventured to put the suggestion in precisely that form to the Minister of State, Lord Belstead, in the Lords on April 19 (Hansard, column 399) after he had surprised many of us by saying that our Government had never previously put this suggestion to the Argentine Government, and the minister replied: "I certainly take on board what the noble Lord has said but... the first priority for HM Government is the implementation of Security Council Resolution 502". It is not readiness to submit the dispute to the arbitration of The Hague compliance with that resolution, and have we not everything to gain with the confidence we have in our case and nothing to lose by making that public pronouncement now?

Many had thought, both in Parliament and outside (and were encouraged in the belief by an

Kabul detention of British scholar

From the President of the British Academy

Sir, On March 28, as reported in your columns (April 6), Mr Ralph Pinder-Wilson, the Director of the British Institute for Afghan Studies in Kabul, was detained by the security authorities in Afghanistan. No formal charges have been brought; there has been no clear indication of the grounds on which he is being held and, in spite of repeated requests, full consular access has not been granted.

The British Institute, which is governed by the Society for Afghan Studies, is one of nine overseas research institutes sponsored by the British Academy. Between 1974 and 1979 it undertook regular archaeological excavations at Kandahar under agreement with the Afghan Government. During the past two years its main aim has been to make arrangements to safeguard the study of the Kandahar excavated finds.

Mr Pinder-Wilson had arranged for the material to be transported to the British Institute's premises in Kabul and was discussing with the Ministry of Information and Culture arrangements for entry visas so that British scholars working on the publication could complete the study of the extensive pottery finds now in Kabul. He was on his way to an appointment at the ministry when he was detained.

It is a matter of great concern that, despite repeated requests by the British Consul in Kabul and the strenuous efforts of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, Mr Pinder-Wilson has not been released. He is a man approaching retirement and his health gives some cause for worry. There is great confidence in his personal integrity and in the normal business of an archaeological mission overseas.

The British Academy is seeking to enlist the support and good offices of the international scholarly community, in France, India, Italy, Japan and the Soviet Union (all countries with important archaeological missions to Afghanistan) to help secure Mr Pinder-Wilson's release.

Yours faithfully,
OWEN CHADWICK, The British Academy, Burlington House, Piccadilly, W1, April 23.

Justice Bill

From Dr J. Leahy Taylor

Sir, Mr Morris (April 15) has mentioned but one matter which the Administration of Justice Bill failed to deal with.

A further matter is the third recommendation of the Pearson report, which said that it should be provided that private medical expenses should be recoverable in damages if and only if it was reasonable on medical grounds that the plaintiff should incur them.

This simple measure, which would require repeal of section 2 (4) of the Law Reform (Personal Injuries) Act 1948, and section 3 (4) of the Law Reform (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, (Northern Ireland) 1948, would prevent the injustice of a plaintiff claiming future medical expenses on a private basis, and then seeking payment through the National Health Service.

Yours faithfully,

J. LEAHY TAYLOR, Secretary, The Medical Protection Society Limited, 50 Hallam Street, W1, April 15.

Capital punishment

From the Reverend M. W. Thomas

Sir, Surely the BBC series, *Rough Justice*, and your articles on Paul Clelland (April 22) finally lay to rest any argument there may be in favour of the return of capital punishment.

The thought that someone may spend years in prison unjustly is horrible enough, but at least there remains the possibility of setting him free if the original sentence is reversed.

Yours faithfully,
MARK THOMAS, 51 Chyngton Gardens, Seaford, East Sussex, April 22.

Flights of inspiration

From Mr Michael Sanderson

Sir, Does splendid news of Mr Vladimir Horowitz's first concert in Europe for three decades, having "overcome his legendary dislike of extended travel only because he was intrigued by Concorde" (report, April 16) mean that the aircraft will no longer be thought of as a monstrously expensive white elephant but as an arts subsidy?

Yours faithfully,

MICHAEL SANDERSON, Westnorth College, Heslington, Yorkshire.

Wrong priorities

From Mr J. A. Dowling Green

Sir, Miles Kingston has his priorities wrong (April 20). Morris dancers are Morris dancers. It is when they are off duty from dancing that they take up such interests as stockbroking, teaching, driving Underground trains, or labouring. Not, I assure you, the other way around.

Yours faithfully,

J. A. DOWLING GREEN, 115 Lansdowne Road, Tottenham, N17.

Christians and war

From the Right Rev J. P. Burroughs

Sir, In his letter to *The Times* on April 21, the Reverend Gordon Wilson makes a clear and simple statement about us bishops.

As a member of the Lambeth conferences of 1968 and 1978, I fully accept his criticism of any of us who do not stand by our declaration there made that war is a method of settling international disputes which is incompatible with the teaching and example of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

The world's bloodstained acts of violence these past few decades have certainly not commanded war as a means of gain to anyone. All have been losers. It is divided and still has only a trace and not a peace. My diocese in the then Rhodesia underwent seven years of warfare which was horrible beyond belief, and no plea of political necessity on one side nor a mythical "liberation" on the other can atone for the suffering caused, nor absolve those who tried to make it morally acceptable. Lambeth was right, and we bishops should repeat its declaration.

Yours faithfully,
J. PAUL BURROUGHS, The Rectory, 5 Nook Lane, Eppingham, Leicestershire.

From Mr S. E. MacKenzie

Sir, "But this know ye, that if the Goodman of the house knew at what hour the thief would come, he would certainly watch and would not suffer his house to be broken open." (From Matthew's Gospel, chapter 24, Douay version).

Wherefore the reply to the Chairman of the Anglican Pacifist Fellowship (April 21) must be, with respect, that Christians are not necessarily pacifists. On the contrary, the many who are in the office of supreme pastor instituted by Christ at John 21:15 ff to have been perpetuated in the office of Pope mark well Pope John Paul's two recent reaffirmations of, among other things, the right of legitimate defence.

I refer, first, to the new encyclical of September last, on Human Work, wherein this right is maintained — indeed is seen as "supported... by the permanent threat of nuclear war and the prospect of the terrible self-destruction that emerges from it"; second, because "Respect for this broad range of human rights

Freedom to roam

From Mr Cyril Birks

Sir, Richard North's article, "The long march of the footpath revolutionaries" (April 21), fails to record, inadvertently I suspect, that there was one particular MP who fought hard in the late twenties and early thirties to secure the successful passage of the "Access to Mountains" Bill, but alas in vain. He was P. M. Oliver who, if I remember, was the Liberal MP for Blackley, Manchester.

For successive years he addressed a mass rally of ramblers in the natural arena of Winnats Pass in the heart of Derbyshire in support of the Bill.

At that time, as a member of the forerunner of the present Ramblers' Association, I and other fellow ramblers, who had an intimate knowledge of the Derbyshire hills and dales, organized parties of young men and women, all unemployed and from the poverty-stricken areas of Oldham, Rochdale, Middleton, Dukinfield and other hard-hit industrial sectors within the Manchester region, and led them along the bridle paths, introducing them to country folklores (e.g. closing gates, much appreciated by the farmers) and at the same time giving these youngsters the opportunity of escaping once a week from their drab surroundings.

Money for the train journey to Chinley and other starting points

constitutes the fundamental condition for peace in the modern world." (16). And second, I refer to the Pope's World Peace Message of January 1, 1982, capped at (12) with its endorsement of the similar teaching of Vatican II (*Gaudium et Spes*, 79).

None of which denies the difficulty inherent in seeking true justice and peace, as in the present crisis of aggression in the Falklands, while many another "goodman of the house" waits to see whether the Falklanders are to be pressured into accepting a fait accompli. Your correspondent would not, I think, wish to have his projected lone-like abbey commemorate so base an outcome. Nor, I venture, would Matthew 24:43.

Yours etc,
S. E. MACKENZIE, Trefusis, Cavendish Road, Weybridge, Surrey.

From Mr J. G. W. Bruce-Jones

Sir, Of the many points in the leading article, "Keep ambiguity in deterrence", of April 16, that deserve to be questioned I wish to focus on one that is, I believe, particularly insidious and misleading.

We read: "It would be dangerous... to spread the impression that conventional war is somehow acceptable where nuclear war is not." The point is, surely, that whilst all war is ultimately unacceptable, in the real world there are degrees of acceptability.

The crucial difference between conventional war and nuclear war is that the first involves in direct confrontation professional military forces, while by its very essence nuclear war kills directly millions of civilians. Even conservative Home Office estimates assume that 25 million people would die in a nuclear attack on the UK.

In conventional war the decision to kill civilians directly must take into account the consequences of the political odium incurred, as well as problems of military logistics and the availability of destructive technology; there is always a choice.

In nuclear war these problems have been overcome; there is no choice. Nuclear weapons are, first and always, weapons of mass destruction.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN BRUCE-JONES, Jesus College, Cambridge, April 18.

Shere Thursday

From the Reverend W. B. Vernon

Sir, In the parish records of Winterslow, near Salisbury, there is a churchwardens' account book of the seventeenth or eighteenth century which records an item of expenditure for Shere Thursday (letter, April 19).

The Oxford Dictionary of the Christian Church (Cross) suggests that "shere" may refer either to the practice of receiving absolution or to the ceremonial cleaning of the altars of the church on that day. I seem to remember that the churchwardens' item indicated the latter alternative.

Yours faithfully,
W. B. VERNON, Winterslow, Northmoor Road, Dulverton, Somerset.

Plant research

From Mr H. P. Boddington

Sir, My council, which represents some 1,400 local authority professional officers in the horticultural, amenity and leisure services, has recently become concerned at plans being considered by the Agricultural Research Council to discontinue research work on improvement of hardy ornamental plants by clonal selection, etc., at the Long Ashton Research Station.

The research council has indicated a need to release commitment of some 4 per cent annually, £3m on its present budget, and, in a discussion document recently circulated, suggests that the majority of this will come from reducing work at the Animal Breeding Research Organization, Edinburgh, by nearly half and Long Ashton, Bristol, by one third.

Local authorities, as successors to many of the country's finest landed estates and guardians of much of the country's townscape,

are as a group the largest purchasers of trees and shrubs and for a long time they have been concerned at clonal variation in plant material, setting up with the Horticultural Trades Association a joint plant liaison group.

Whilst suggestions are now being made that the work at Long Ashton will be transferred to East Malling Research Station, Kent, it is my council's opinion that this is not the best interests of the future progress of the industry, amongst other things, it is being suggested that this work will have to be contained within financial cuts already planned for East Malling.

A final decision was to be taken in February but, after being taken in support for a widespread continuance of the Long Ashton programme, this was postponed until March, with a further postponement until April 20, 1982, to allow a consultative document to be circulated.

It is regretted that the Agricultural Research Council has not

seen fit to change its decision, despite the representations made to it and the firm belief of my Council that there is nothing in the consultative document to merit the decision.

Yours faithfully,
H. P. BODDINGTON, President, Institute of Park and Recreation Administration, Morden Park House, Morden Road, Morden, Surrey, April 21.

Chronic disorders

From Miss Charlotte Hofton

Sir, Has Mr Seigel (April 21) ever tried to unwrap a piece of sticking plaster with the fingers that have just been lacerated while endeavouring to open a tin of sardines?

Yours faithfully,

CHARLOTTE HOFTON, 107 Albert Palace Mansions, Lurline Gardens, W11, April 21.



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

WINDSOR CASTLE

April 26: The Duke of Edinburgh, Master of Trinity House, will attend the naming ceremony of the Trinity House new flagship at the Pool of London on June 1.

The Duke of Edinburgh, Chancellor of Salford University, will visit the university and deliver the Chancellor's lecture on June 4 at the Queen's Guard at St James's Palace.

His Royal Highness was received upon arrival by the Commanding Officer (Lieutenant Colonel Anthony Denison-Smith) and the Captain of the Queen's Guard (Major John Rodwell).

Major the Hon Andrew Wigram was in attendance.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

April 26: The Prince and Princess of Wales, Duke and Duchess of Cornwall, this evening attended the Western District Audit Dinner at the Carlton Hotel, St Austell.

Mr Francis Cornish was in attendance.

The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips, Colonel-in-Chief, 14th/20th King's Hussars, this morning at Gatcombe Park received Lieutenant Colonel P. Harman upon his assuming command of the Regiment.

KENSINGTON PALACE

April 26: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, as Patron, this evening attended the Royal Caledonia Ball at Grosvenor House.

Mrs Angus Blair was in attendance.

Forthcoming marriages

Dr C. J. Allen and Miss J. A. Craven. The engagement is announced between Christopher John, elder son of Professor and Mrs K. W. Allen, of Boar's Hill, Oxford, and Marilyn Anne, only daughter of Mr and Mrs E. A. Craven of Fenelon Falls, Ontario, Canada.

Mr A. J. Balcombe and Miss F. J. Samson. The engagement is announced between Andrew, eldest son of Mr and Mrs E. J. Balcombe, of Hampstead, and Frances, daughter of Mr and Mrs J. E. Samson, of Canby, Oregon.

Mr E. I. Cooke and Miss E. C. Jennings. The engagement is announced between Edward, son of the late Mr R. Cooke, of Blofield, Norfolk, and Claire, daughter of Mr and Mrs F. C. Jennings, of Angmering, West Sussex.

Mr O. H. A. Dowling and Miss V. Gilman. The engagement is announced between Oliver, eldest son of Mr and Mrs O. H. A. Dowling, of Shepton Montague, and Vanessa, daughter of Lieutenant Commander and Mrs I. Gilman, of Templecombe.

Dr P. R. T. Hewitson and Miss C. A. M. Langley. The engagement is announced between Patrick Hewitson, of Brook Cottage, Ashton Keynes, Wiltshire, and Chantel, only daughter of Lieutenant Colonel and Mrs J. M. Langley, of The Old Rectory, Alderton, Woodbridge, Suffolk.

Mr R. K. Hutchinson and Miss A. J. Holland. The engagement is announced between Richard Keith, elder son of Mr and Mrs K. Hutchinson, of South Humberston, and Alison Judith, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs A. Holland, of Congleton, Cheshire.

Mr P. A. R. James and Miss E. F. Lounis. The engagement is announced between Philip Andrew Rhodes, eldest son of Mr and Mrs J. R. James, of Skipton, and Yvette Françoise, daughter of M. F. Lounis and Mme G. Lounis, of Voinon, France.

The Duke of Edinburgh, Master of Trinity House, will attend the naming ceremony of the Trinity House new flagship at the Pool of London on June 1.

The Prince of Wales, Elder Brother of Trinity House, will attend the corporation's annual court at Tower Hill and subsequently attend the anniversary service at St Olave's Church, EC3, on May 25.

Princess Anne will attend the Fire Service Ball, in aid of the Fire Service College, Moreton-in-Marsh, on May 14.

Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester will visit the Chelsea Flower Show, London, on May 17.

The Duchess of Gloucester will visit the Chelsea Flower Show on May 17. In the evening she will attend the first night of *Princes of Penzance* at the Drury Lane Theatre, London, in aid of the Elizabeth Home for the Mentally Handicapped and the Children's Country Holidays Fund.

A service of thanksgiving for the life of Mr H. Corbett will be held at St Paul's, Covent Garden, on Thursday, April 29, at noon. A service of thanksgiving for the life of Mr Harold Keeble will be held at St Bride's, Fleet Street, today at noon.

Dinners

HM Government. Mr Alex Fletcher, Minister for Industry and Education at the Scottish Office, was host at a dinner held at Edinburgh Castle last night, on the occasion of the visit to Scotland by Nigerian senators.

Freight Transport Association. Mr L. S. Payne, president of the Freight Transport Association, presided at the annual dinner held at the Hilton Hotel last night. The principal guest was Mr V. G. Paige, chairman, Port of London Authority, and deputy chairman, National Freight Consortium.

Service dinner. The Officer's Dining Club of The Kent and Sharpshooters Yeomanry held their annual dinner at the Royal Yeomanry Headquarters, Westminster, last night. Colonel Robin Leigh-Pemberton, Honorary Colonel, presided.

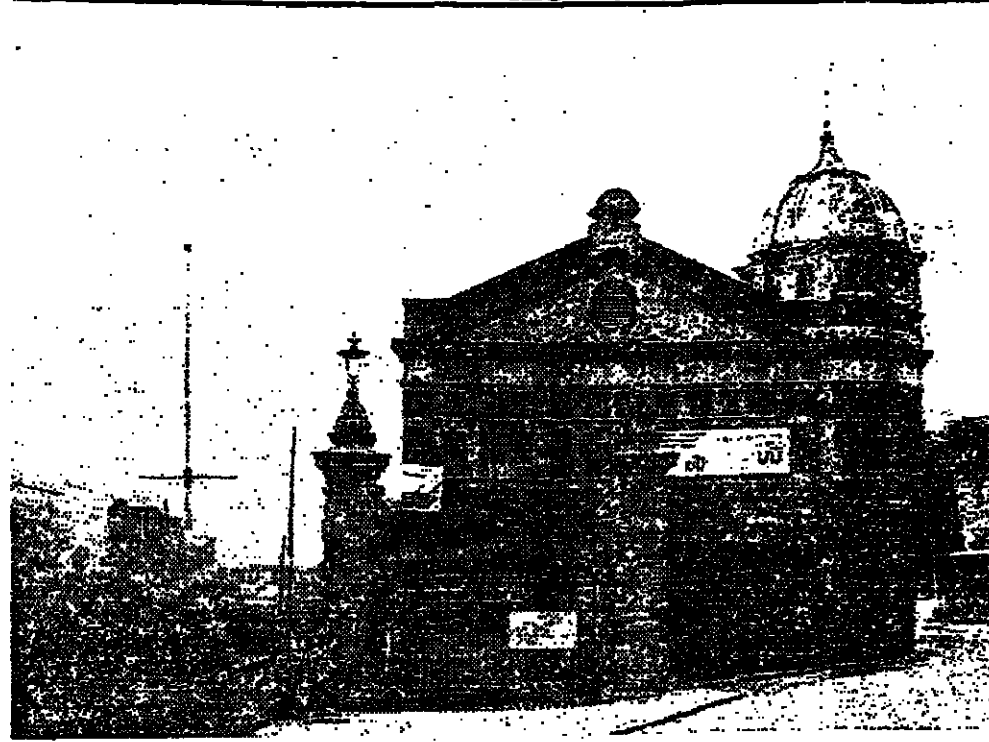
Marriages

Viscount Quenington and Senhrita G. M. Saavedra. A service of blessing was held at Westminster Park, Cirencester, on Friday, April 23, for the marriage of Viscount Quenington, eldest son of Earl and Countess St Aldwyn, of Cirencester, Gloucestershire, and Senhrita Gilda Maria Saavedra, only daughter of Barão and Baronesa Saavedra, of Rua Paula Freitas 104, Copacabana, Rio de Janeiro. The Rev. Canon Cowdrey officiated, assisted by the Bishop of Gloucester.

Mr A. C. Dykes and Miss C. A. Harrison. The marriage took place on Saturday at St Oswald's Church, Malpas, between Mr Andrew Christopher Dykes, only son of the late Mr John Dykes and of Mrs Molly Dykes, and Miss Christina Anne Harrison, younger daughter of the late Mr J. M. Harrison and of Mrs Anne Harrison, both of whom are deceased. The marriage was officiated by the Rev. Peter Roberts.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her brother, Mr Robert Dykes, was accompanied by Miss Sally Churton. Mr Edward Cressy was best man.

Mr D. Rawkins and Mrs B. Baldwin. The marriage took place on Friday, April 23, in Norfolk, between Mr David Rawkins and Mrs B. Baldwin (née Bradshaw).



The Watershed Arts Trust complex: Warehouses full of technology

New life for Victorian warehouses

By Kenneth Gosling

Two of Bristol's Victorian dockside warehouses will open to the public next month to provide what is thought to be Britain's first media and communications centre, and shopping and catering facilities.

Work on the repair, conversion and fitting out of the Watershed Arts Trust complex began in December, 1980.

Bristol City Council, the owner of the sheds, offered them at a peppercorn rent on a 99-year lease. Part of the ground floor is being used by the radio station, Radio West, and the rest of the buildings will be brought into use during the summer, with a gala opening in the autumn.

The British Film Institute gave the trust a capital grant of £100,000; the centre has two cinemas, one of which will be opened by Sir Richard Attenborough, the institute's chairman, on May 27. The centre needs another £500,000 to complete its capital funding, and thereafter about £250,000 a year for running expenses.

Walls Steve Pinney, Watershed's director, said the intention was to establish a centre of importance not only to Bristol people but to the nation.

"Our facilities range from the fairly sophisticated to the most basic," he said. "We will run courses and develop ideas and encourage people who work in other contexts to come to Watershed."

The rent of the buildings will be paid for by the commercial use of the ground floor. The media centre is devoted to the main sources of information and entertainment in the twentieth century: film, television, photography, printing, radio, video, data transmission and telecommunications.

Bethany School

Summer Term begins today. Simon Pidgeon continues as head of school and Rupert Thacker is captain of cricket. Confirmation takes place on May 8 and will be conducted by the Bishop of Maidstone. The guest on speech day, on June 19, will be Mr B. Patterson, MEP. The choir will make its annual tour of East Anglia in July and the combined choral societies of Bedgebury School and Bethany will be performing a choral concert in Aushford Church on Ascension Day. Term ends on July 17.

Clifton College

Term begins today with 1,215 boys on the roll of whom 555 are in the preparatory school. S. P. Kurer (Polack's House) is head of school and P. M. Whidborne (Wiseman's House) second head of school. The new sports centre will be opened by Mr John James on June 15-16 for those at the school before 1919. Commemoration is on June 4-5 when the preacher will be the Bishop of Bath and Wells. The new sports centre will be opened by Mr John James on June 25 and term ends on July 9.

Kent College, Canterbury

Summer Term starts today and ends on Saturday, July 10, which is also speech day and the Old Canterbury Festival. There are 404 boys and 168 girls in the school. Alexandra Shenton and Michael Allchin continue as head prefects and Tim Lunel is captain of cricket. The confirmation service will be held in the school chapel on Friday, May 7. Haydn's Nelson Mass and Vivaldi's Gloria will be performed jointly with Ashford School at 7.30 at Faversham Parish Church on Friday, May 14.

Roedean School

Summer Term at Roedean School begins today and ends on Monday, July 12. Long Leave is from June 27 to July 1. Reunion and open day will take place on Saturday, July 10, and the school concert on Sunday, July 11.

Birthdays today

Mr Igo Oistrakh, the Soviet violinist, who is 51.

Professor Muriel Bradbrook, 73. Air Marshal Sir Charles Broughton, 71. Sir Ross Chesterton, 73. Professor G. S. Graham, 78. Sir Robert Hall, 78. Sir Tom Riddell, 79. Sir Richard Huggitt, 53. The Right Rev E. W. Jess, 67. Air Marshal Sir Ronald Jones, 72. Sir Harry Melville, 74. Sir Alfred North, 88. Mr Alan Reynolds, 56. Miss Sheila Scott, 55. Lord Taylor of Gryffe, 70. Sir John Thomson, 53.

Latest appointments

The following Army appointments and promotions are announced: Lieutenant-General Sir Frank Kitchin to be Commander in Chief, United Kingdom Land Forces, in July, in the rank of General. Major-General A. C. S. Boswell to be Commander of Scotland and Governor of Edinburgh Castle, in July, in the rank of Lieutenant-General. Brigadier B. W. Davis to be Chief of Staff Logistic Executive (Army) Ministry of Defence, in July, in the rank of Major-General. Brigadier J. C. O. R. Hopkinson to be Chief of Staff, Headquarters Allied Forces Northern Europe, in June, in the rank of Major-General.

Haberdashers' Monmouth School for Girls

Summer Term begins today and ends on July 9. There are 540 girls in the school. Open day will be July 8. Half term will be from noon, Friday, May 28, to Thursday, June 3. The head girl is Kathryn Lewis.

Felixstowe College

Summer Term begins today and ends on July 9. The new premises. Half term will be from May 28 to June 2 and the old girls' reunion will be on July 16. Parents' day when the school will be addressed by Sir George Sinclair. The preacher at the 'Leavers' service will be the very Rev Rex Bird, Dean of Bath.

Royal Grammar School, Guildford

Trinity Term began yesterday and ends on July 15. General Sir Harry Tuzo and Mr Vernon Handley will give the 1982 King's Lecture on May 12 and June 28 respectively. The Summer fete will be on June 19 and athletic sports on July 6. There will be a chamber concert on July 8.

St George's School Ascot

Term begins today. Old girls' day will be held on Saturday, May 22 and parents' day on Saturday, July 10. Term ends on July 15.

Westminster School

Election Term begins today. There are 581 members of the great school and 158 of the under school. G. G. Weston (Liddell's) continues as head of school and A. J. Bird (Q5) as prefect. The challenge is on May 10-12. The exact is from May 27 to June 2. The school concert will be on June 2. The school will be held on Saturday, July 12-15. The election dinner is on July 16 and term ends on that day.

Holders fight off bridge challengers

The two sections of pairs which opened the fourth annual Gurney festival of bridge in Jersey on Friday were won by Mrs E. G. P. Horne (Oxford), Mrs M. Pimman and Mrs B. Carpenter (Southern Counties), and Mrs M. E. Harvey (Sussex), and Mrs M. E. Wenden and Miss J. Hare (Warwickshire).

The main event, played over four sessions, teams on Saturday and Sunday, turned into a one-horse race when the holders and favourites, captained by Douglas Romain, took an early lead which was never relinquished.

Play continues during the week, culminating in the Channel Islands pairs championships at the weekend, when the holders, Douglas Romain and Lyn Jones, will be defending the trophy.

Basingstoke and Blackburn win

Two regional finals of the Sobram Bridge Challenge were played over the weekend. The southern regional final was won by Basingstoke and district team one and the North-west regional final by Blackburn's team two. The results were: Southern regional final: Basingstoke and district team one 86 victory points; Basingstoke and district team two 82 victory points; Manchester team one 80 victory points. North-west regional final: Blackburn team two 86 victory points; Blackburn team one 82 victory points; Manchester team one 80 victory points.

Bishop appointed

The Rev David Henry Hardie, vicar of SS Peter and Paul, Bromley, Kent, has been appointed Bishop Suffragan of Tonbridge, in succession to the Right Rev Philip Goodrich, who is to be Bishop of Worcester.

OBITUARY

DAME CELIA JOHNSON

Sympathetic presence on screen and stage

Dame Celia Johnson, DBE, the actress, died on April 25 at the age of 73. She was made DBE last year.

Among the most gracious and sympathetic players in the English theatre, especially in passages of quiet emotion, she was also a comedienne in the "drawing-room" tradition, marked by her sense of the ridiculous, her close timing, and the eloquent use of her eyes. Though she seldom acted in the classics, she could be a delicate Chekhovian. To thousands she will be remembered for her part in the film *Brief Encounter* starring opposite Trevor Howard.

A doctor's daughter, born in Richmond, Surrey, on December 18, 1908, she was educated in London (St Paul's Girls' School) and abroad, and then at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art. She first reached the London stage at the Lyric, Hammer-smith, in January 1929 when she followed Angela Baddeley in the Spanish comedy, *A Hundred Years Old*. Twelve months later, at the Kingsway, she was in a poor piece, *The Artist and the Shadow*. "A play of Bohemian life in Paris," that lasted only a week. "Celia Johnson, whom I do not remember seeing before," said the critic, "was very good indeed in a difficult part, an artist's model."

Many notices echoed this. Within two months, in another short-lived and indifferent *West End* comedy, *Deborah*, she acted with graceful assurance as a complex heroine given throughout to running away from something or somebody. From this she went straight on to the Playhouse to appear, with Gerald du Maurier and Gladys Cooper, in the heartiest of hearties, the old Vic company's exciting, tenure of the New Theatre. Celia Johnson split critical opinion; generally it was felt that though she showed only one side of the character, not the girl-woman whose voice should be "bright, strong, rough," she was fully in key as the poor "innocent child of God," faith incarnate.

There was another gap before an Italian tour (1950) with the Old Vic company as *Viola* in *Twelfth Night*, and, after a brief return to the old Vic company's exciting, tenure of the New Theatre, Celia Johnson split critical opinion; generally it was felt that though she showed only one side of the character, not the girl-woman whose voice should be "bright, strong, rough," she was fully in key as the poor "innocent child of God," faith incarnate.

By now, after marriage in 1937 to the actor, traveller, and critic, Peter Fleming, for many years on the staff of



Dame Celia Johnson

The Times, she was living at Nettlebed in Oxfordshire. Admired in the theatre for her flashes of wit and the gentle voice that was described as "an unfolding flower," she became nevertheless an actress increasingly hard to find. Indeed, during a decade from 1937 she would have only two major stage parts: Mrs de Winter in *Daphne du Maurier's* drama, *Rebecca* (Queen's, 1940), and, succeeding Vivien Leigh — the Cornish wife Jennifer in Shaw's *The Doctor's Dilemma* (Haymarket, 1944). Still, she was making a new reputation as a film actress. She had been the Captain's wife of Noël Coward's *In Which We Serve* (1942), the working-class mother in a version of his play, *This Happy Breed* (1945), and, in *Portrait of a Lady*, the housewife in *Brief Encounter* (1945; based on *Still Life*), that poignant drama of a chance railway-station meeting. In 1950 she completed her Coward sequence with the director's wife of *The Astonished Heart*.

Before then, in the winter of 1947, she had returned to the London stage in *Saint Joan*. It was at the middle of the old Vic company's exciting, tenure of the New Theatre. Celia Johnson split critical opinion; generally it was felt that though she showed only one side of the character, not the girl-woman whose voice should be "bright, strong, rough," she was fully in key as the poor "innocent child of God," faith incarnate.

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MISS MARGARET POPHAM

Miss Margaret Evelyn Popham, CBE, principal of Cheltenham Ladies' College from 1937 to 1953 and only surviving child of Rev B. G. Popham, rector of Shobury, died on April 25, aged 87.

From the age of five she was mistress of her school of dolls and subsequently entertained no other ambition but to be a teacher. Her early education was provided by a governess and schooling at Blackheath High School. From there she entered Westfield College and her first teaching (Classics and English) was at Chatham County School, followed by a similar one at Havergal College, Toronto.

The 50 Margaret Popham, a superb teacher, returned to England to be headmistress of the Jersey College for Girls, and two years later was invited to be principal of Westonsville School. During her fifth year there she was offered the principalship of Cheltenham Ladies' College, which she accepted and held until her retirement 16 years later when the chairman of

an eyelid to a packed speech. That year, 1978, she was appointed C.B.E. She began the nineteen-sixties as a woman named Pamela Puffy-Pic in a lagging two-character play, *Chin-Chin*, adapted from the French, where she could use her gift for comedy on the rim of tears. In N. C. Hunter's *The Tulip Tree* (Haymarket, 1962) she acted a middle-aged woman who held firmly to the image of the past ("What I fear most is forgetting"); in the autumn of 1963 she enlivened Giles Cooper's comedy, *Out of the Gutter*, and for the National Theatre company at the Old Vic (1964) she was, affecting, Mrs Solness in *The Master Builder*. Later for the National (1965) she took over from Edith Evans's Judith in *Hay Fever*. Coward's actress whose retirement is a sustained performance, as Madame Kovinsky in the Chichester Festival's *Cherry Orchard* (1966) she allowed moments of the most genuine feeling to pierce the woman's indolent vagueness. Then, at the Duke of York's (1967), in Alan Ayckbourn's *Relativity*, speaking the sense of comedy was at its meridian, especially during a final half-hour when she was trying to reconcile her duties as a hostess with a passionate belief, expressed by a slight quiver of the eyelid — in practically everything that had happened or could happen. At the same theatre, in the spring of 1968, she returned in historic haireur and surrender to Judith in *Hay Fever* after playing that part in Toronto.

When, after three years, she came back to the London stage (Cambridge Theatre, 1971) it was, surprisingly, as the Gertrude, overwhelmed by the pressure of events, she had played to Alan Bates's Hamlet at Nottingham in the previous autumn. She succeeded Peggy Ashcroft in William Douglas Home's *Lloyd George Knew My Father* (1972); and in the title-part of Mr Home's *The Dame of Sark* (Wyndham's, 1974) she was her clear, glowing direct self.

Though, for a long time, she had been out of the theatre, since *The Kingfisher* at the Lyric in 1977 she had just returned to it in the previews of a play called *The Understanding*, by Angela Bruce. It was in the role of Mrs Ralph Richardson. It was due to open officially at the Strand Theatre tonight.

She was seen too rarely on television where her warmth, and expressive features — and sense of humour — were seen to good effect. Television watchers will recall the master pleasure of playing in *Mrs Palfrey at the Claremont*, adapted from the novel by Elizabeth Taylor, and her moving performance in Paul Scott's *Staying On* in which she was reunited with Trevor Howard.

Peter Fleming died suddenly in 1971 and she is survived by a son and two daughters: one of whom, Lucy, is herself on the stage.

Regent's Park Mosque buys Sultan's manuscript for £80,000

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

The most expensive *Qur'an* ever sold at auction was on its way yesterday from Sotheby's to the Regent's Park. A magnificent old manuscript will embellish one of the finest new architectural features of London.

The *Qur'an*, so large that it takes two people to carry it, was written in 1488 and dedicated to Sultan Qait Bay. It was sold for £80,000. The manuscript seems to have been commissioned for the mosque he was building in Cairo and to have been written by a member of his household, possibly a relation, as an act of devotion. It has illuminated flowers between verses and one double page of illumination in colour.

It was bought yesterday by the Karim Said Foundation for presentation to the Regent's Park Mosque. The £2m foundation was set up by the late Sir Karim Said, a prominent Saudi Arabian businessman who lives in London, in memory of his son aged 10 who died in a swimming accident last year.

The *Qur'an* was included in a sale of fine Oriental manuscripts from the Hagop Kevorkian Foundation, an old collection which always attracts strong bidding, and only 3 per cent was left unsold. The recent collector, Sotheby's, to risk for the first time, an entire sale of manuscripts without minuscules. Most of the buyers were from the Middle East.

The most ambitious eccentricity of Sotheby's afternoon sale of Islamic works of art was a sale of Islamic works of art, comprising ceilings, walls, doors, window frames et al in "Turkish rococo" style, dating from 1790-91. Composed of 55 separate parts, it sold to a Continental buyer for £22,000 (estimate £20,000 to £40,000).

The flagging fortunes of the Phillips' sale of the English Ford's 17th and 18th century paintings (45 per cent unsold) were cheered by unusual museum interest. The Tate spent £2,200 on a fine example of Victorian schmalz, James Lupton Hart's "A rustic clasp-piece". The

Moreover... Miles Kington

At this tense moment in our island history, it seems a good idea to go through the main dates in the Falkland Islands story once again. On the other hand, as everyone has already done this with absolutely no effect whatsoever, it seems an even better idea to introduce some lesser known dates in the Falklands story.

1501: Don Jaime de Tesco, a Spanish adventurer, mounts an expedition across the Atlantic to find a quicker route to Wales, the fabled country rich in coal, slate and water. On November 18 he discovers a group of islands which are "wet, cold, windy and beyond doubt Welsh". He names the islands Nuevo Gower and erects a small corrugated tin chapel in gratitude.

1679: Captain Coleman Hawkins, an English adventurer, reports finding islands off South America "the size but not the shape of Wales. As the shape of these isles is exceedingly hard to draw, I shall mark it on my chart with the outline of Wales, except for Anglesey, which I have always found difficult". He lands a group of settlers on the mainland to cultivate the place and man it for England. The next day they return to the ship, complain-

ing that the place is melancholy and uninhabited. "No worse than a Welsh Sunday", comments Captain Hawkins, forcibly disembarking them again.

1682: Returning past the islands, Captain Hawkins finds the settlement despoiled, despite the introduction of sheep and rugby football. He also finds his small holiday hut destroyed by nationalists. The settlers return to Britain.

1700: During the eighteenth century small settlements are established on the islands by the English, French, Spanish, Dutch and Japanese. They all exist in ignorance of each other, being as far apart as Newry, Wrexham and Cardiff, who to this day live in ignorance of each other. All the settlements are kept under close observation by Russian trawlers disguised as Russian trawlers.

1765: A Spanish fleet commanded by Admiral Malvinia engages an English fleet under Rear-Admiral Falkland, winner, to have the islands named after him. The action is indecisive. Malvinia's parting words are "These islands ought to belong to Argentina, if and when it becomes independent," to which Falkland rejoins: "We'll see what the Foreign Office has to say about that." All subsequent controversy is based on this exchange.

1810-1820: Many Welsh settlers bring their sheep to the Falkland Islands, miss them

altogether and end up founding Patagonia.

1847: A small detachment of ships from Monaco lands on the Falklands, taking them in the name of Monaco and declaring them a free gambling area. They construct a small casino out of stone.

1850: The casino goes bankrupt, having attracted in four years bets to the total value of £5, all of it being placed in very small amounts by Russian observers disguised as poor fishermen. The croppers return home and Monaco enters its post-imperial phase.

1863: Argentina lays claim to the Falklands, on the ground of having produced the first chart on which they are not shown to be the shape of Wales but more like two dogs back to back, or perhaps bear stans on a wet bar.

1914-1918, 1939-1945: Many Russian observation vessels disguised as English or German warships are sunk. 1957 onwards: The British Empire becomes independent, being divided for convenience's sake into the Old Commonwealth (countries that play golf, rugby and defensive cricket) and the New Commonwealth (countries favouring squash, field hockey and attacking cricket). Gibraltar and the Falklands coming into neither category, they are kept as pink on the map, although this is not enough to save the savagely hit pink printing ink industry.

1982: See other pages.



Mr Igo Oistrakh, the Soviet violinist, who is 51.

Professor Muriel Bradbrook, 73. Air Marshal Sir Charles Broughton, 71. Sir Ross Chesterton, 73. Professor G. S. Graham, 78. Sir Robert Hall, 78. Sir Tom Riddell, 79. Sir Richard Huggitt, 53. The Right Rev E. W. Jess, 67. Air Marshal Sir Ronald Jones, 72. Sir Harry Melville, 74. Sir Alfred North, 88. Mr Alan Reynolds, 56. Miss Sheila Scott, 55. Lord Taylor of Gryffe, 70. Sir John Thomson, 53.

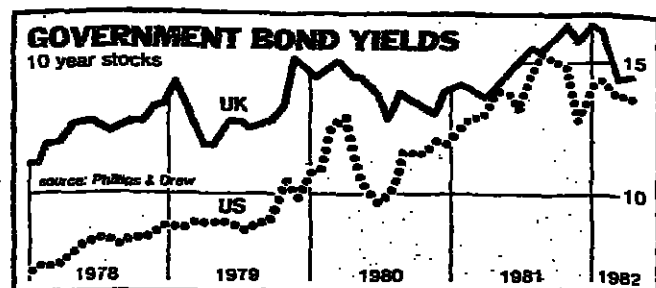
Latest appointments

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INSON
reen and stage

BUSINESS NEWS

US widens the gap



The gap between yields offered on 10 year government bonds in the United Kingdom and the United States has widened, particularly since the market has been under the Falklands crisis shadow. In spite of the slightly lower nominal returns offered by United States bonds, the prospective real rate of return continues to look relatively attractive. Inflation figures last Friday suggested that United States inflation is slowing much more quickly than Britain's. Some analysts expect a United States inflation rate of 3 per cent by December.

ACC agreement

The Independent Broadcasting Authority and Associated Communications Corporation will sign an agreement over ACC's stake in Central Independent Television later this week. The 51 per cent of the Central Independent voting shares will be placed in trust, but ACC will retain the rights to 51 per cent of the group's profits with the proviso that the IBA can demand the stake be sold or substantially reduced if it ever sees fit. It will mean the IBA will then consent to the transfer of ACC's voting shares to TVW Enterprises, headed by Australian financier Mr Robert Holmes a Court.

EEC plans sugar fight

The European Community is planning a "divide and conquer" strategy against 10 sugar nations jointly fighting the community's sugar subsidy programme. Analysts say that if the community is successful it can break the complaint in 10 separate cases and claim each country is not hurt significantly. The exporters include Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Colombia, Cuba and India.

Down raid on Jarvis

A dawn raid on building contractor J Jarvis & Sons pushed the share price up 41p to 34p but broker Shephards and Associates managed to pick up only around 5,000 shares — 0.5 per cent of the equity — before the price went above the 35p per share being offered by their unnamed client. Mr Robert Denney, Jarvis chairman, said he believed he knew the buyer's identity but did not expect a bid approach. The largest shareholders in Jarvis are Mr Douglas Jarvis, the former chairman who holds 12 per cent.

Profits aside...

House of Fraser, which is expected to announce its third consecutive full-year profits fall tomorrow, is spending £30,000 in sponsorship at the Edinburgh Festival.

BP plant ready

BP Chemicals' £50m ethanol plant at Grangemouth in Scotland has been completed on time, and is expected to come on stream this summer — in spite of persistent speculation that extensive losses in plastics and petrochemicals will force job cuts before the end of the year at the Grangemouth site.

MARKET SUMMARY

Equities remain firm

LONDON EXCHANGE

FT index 568.0 up 0.9
FT 100 67.58 down 0.02
FT All Share 326.71 down 0.1
Bargains 16,121

The start of the fourth week of the Falklands crisis proved again the underlying firmness of the equity market, where early market downturns were shrugged off and the FT index ended the day up 0.9 at 568.0.

GKN gave the best performance among leaders, with a 5p jump to 166p in response to a bullish circular from Rowe & Pitman. This forecast profits of £75m pre-tax this year, the top end of the range of market estimates.

Blue Circle at 460p, down 4p, and T&L down 4p at 198p eased ahead of figures, but ICI was firm at 310p in front of first quarter results. Bowater eased 2p at 228p with further stock coming on offer.

Gills rallied on the strength of sterling against the dollar having early market downturns with long dates generally unchanged and shorts shedding up to 2%.

Comment on the prospect of further rights issues in the sector led leading properties where Land Securities shed 10p to 275p, MEPC lost 6p to 195p and Great Portland eased 10p to 164p.

Demand for oils continued, although it petered out later in the day, with Ultramar up 13p at 445p and Laseco rising 10p to 359p.

COMMODITIES

Metals responded unevenly to political tension. Cash standard copper lost £3 to £865 a tonne, while three months was about £2.50 lower at £894. Tin also fell, although the movement was confused by a temporary disruption of communications between London and Penang which allowed the Straits price to breach its intervention floor. Tin for immediate delivery was £7,090 a tonne, down £35, and three months metal lost £40 to £7,512. But by contrast lead, zinc and cash aluminium all rose.

Cocoa was the most active of the softs. Suggestions that the International Cocoa Organization buffer stock manager will be allowed to buy another 35,000 tonnes of materials and some reaction to signs of overselling on the charts caused April cocoa to leap by £40 to £940 a tonne and the May contract gain £52 to close at £978.

TODAY

Interim: Border and Southern Stockholders Trust, Greenoat Properties.
Final: Astbury and Madeley, English National Investments, Farnell Electronics, John Laing, Ake View Investments, T3, London United Investments, Marlborough Properties, Newarthill, North British Holdings, Parnam, Safeguard Industries, Silenight Holdings, John C. Small and Thomas, Tarmac, Toys and Company, Toner Kemsley and Milbourn, Turfitt Wadkin.
Economic Statistics: Unemployment (provisional); unfilled vacancies (April provisional);

OTHER EXCHANGES

Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Index 7,404.21 up 33.53
Hong Kong: Hang Seng Index 1,279.27 up 43.43

CURRENCIES

The Pound slipped to \$1.75 in the Far East overnight and lost heavily against Continentals before regaining ground in Europe. The dollar was weaker after the latest money supply fall and lower short term interest rates.

LONDON CLOSE

STERLING \$1.7760 up to 60pts
Index 89.5 down 0.3
DM 4.2050
FF 10.97
Yen 222.50

DOLLAR Index 114.2 down 0.7
DM 2.3740 down 120pts

GOLD \$355.25 up \$2.75

MONEY MARKETS

Rates opened slightly firmer but markets relaxed a little as sterling picked up. The Bank bought £471m of bills after a forecast of a £450m shortage.

Domestic Rates: Base rates 13
3-month interbank 14-13 1/2
Euro-Currency Rates: 3-month dollar 14-14 1/2
3-month DM 9-8 1/2
3-month FRF 22-21 1/2

Esso triggers new rise in petrol prices

By Jonathan Davis, Energy Correspondent

Esso last night started a new round of petrol price increases that are intended to put between 3.5p and 7p a gallon on four star petrol in urban areas. Shell, BP and Texaco are expected to follow suit.

Higher Esso prices became effective from midnight. The company said that it was aiming to eliminate all subsidies to its dealers, including the "temporary allowance" it introduced last November. The new pump price will be about 165p a gallon, which compares with the present average of 162p a gallon in urban areas, and 167/168p in the country.

Esso would continue to provide a limited price support to its dealers in areas of hard competition, but it will not be paying any subsidies below a new minimum price of 165.5p a gallon.

Petrol prices have risen by more than 10 per cent since the Budget seven weeks ago, when the average urban price was 149/150p a gallon. Apart from the Chancellor's 9p a gallon increase in excise duty, there have now been three separate moves by companies to increase prices. Somewhat to the industry's surprise, all the increases have held.

Leading oil companies have made no secret of their wish to bring prices back up to 170p a gallon they reached last autumn. They claim to

Talbot may salvage £150m deal with Iran

By Clifford Webb, Midlands Industrial Correspondent

Talbot UK's £150m a year export business with Iran could be saved by a complicated barter deal involving a British merchant bank, a commodity house and a Dutch-registered shipping company.

An oil-for-car-parts agreement has already been initiated by the Iranian Government, Iran National (the car assembler) and a team of Talbot executives which has been in Tehran for some weeks.

The delay in announcing progress has been caused by the detailed and delicate negotiations still necessary to satisfy all the parties.

However, motor industry sources suggest that a formal announcement will be made in Tehran and Coventry within a week to 10 days. The Iranian Government has apparently agreed to sell oil through a commodity house to a European-based oil company with the British merchant bank financing the deal and taking responsibility for the payments.

Last night Talbot refused to confirm or deny details of the package. A spokesman said: "We are guardedly optimistic. Talks are still continuing in Tehran in an atmosphere of cooperation and we would not want to prejudice them in any way. We can confirm, however, that we have already received some letters of credit for outstanding debts."

The failure of Iran National to meet substantial debts has already delivered to Talbot halting shipments last September. As a result, 1,700 of the 2,500 employees at the company's Stoke engine and transmission plant near Coventry have been on a reduced week for more than five months.

This has aroused union fears that it could close altogether. Last night local union officials welcomed the progress in the Tehran negotiations, but they are still advising their members to "await events before jumping for joy".

With its home-grown component industry in chaos because of the war with Iraq and with no supplies of engines or gearboxes from Talbot, Iranian car production has collapsed. ICI Hurl but export restrictions and slow domestic demand, Japan's production of passenger cars, lorries and buses fell by 0.5 per cent in the financial year to March, compared to about 11.1m vehicles.

US resumes purchases of oil from Iran

From Nicholas Hirst, New York, April 26

The United States has resumed buying oil from Iran, a move to be seen as that could mark the advent of better relations between the two countries.

Officials said the Defence Department had bought 1.8 million barrels for \$53.1m (£30m) from Gatoli International, a Geneva-based organization, to add to the strategic petroleum reserve. The contract specified that the light crude would come from Iran.

This is the first time Iranian oil has been imported into the United States since the hostages crisis began on November 4, 1979. President Carter banned Iranian oil imports eight days later. That ban was lifted by President Reagan on January 19.

Eastern block faces interest rate sanction

From Ian Murray, Luxembourg, April 26

OECD will not submit any proposals for an increase in export credit rates. Any pressure, particularly from the United States, for an increase in rates would have to be agreed by the European Community members in the margins of the OECD meeting.

It was agreed today that there should be a reclassification of the three groups of countries eligible for special rates of export credits. A high category for the rich countries is proposed based on an income of \$4,000 (£2,259) per head of the gross domestic product in 1979. Apart from the three European countries, this would include Israel and Spain as well as seven other small states or dependencies.

The impetus for the reclassification, according to Mr Nicholas Murray, Financial Secretary to the Treasury, came from the imposition of military rule in Poland.

Edwardes critical of role of shop stewards

Communication in a company cannot be left to shop stewards.

Sir Michael Edwardes, BL chairman, said yesterday in a revealing exposition of his uncompromising style of management. Speaking to the City University Business School, Sir Michael said productivity was the key to success, and could be achieved only by altering attitudes, motivating people and pushing through difficult changes.

Boards of directors, managers and unions were all inclined to resist change, he said.

Sir Michael said the restoration of direct management-employee communications was an essential part of management's right to manage. This could not be left to shop stewards. "Shop stewards," he said, "have their own and their members' interests to promote," he said.

It was by bypassing the shop steward network and eventually convincing the shop floor of the need for change that BL had been able to push through its job cuts and achieve a productivity increase at Longbridge of more than 120 per cent in a year, he said.

He said the need for management of change was proved by the fact that wages in Britain had risen by 34 per cent in the last 10 years while productivity had increased by only 26 per cent.

Wall Street Journal heads for Brussels

A new international edition of the Wall Street Journal should be on sale in Europe and parts of the Middle East by early next year. The publication could prove a direct rival to the Financial Times loss-making European edition.

Dow Jones, the United States publisher of the Journal, revealed plans yesterday to launch the publication, which will start with a minimum circulation of 10,000 copies.

The new edition aims to draw readers from Europe's business and political decision-makers and to offer business coverage on a par with that already provided in the United States and the Far East.

It will be edited and published in Brussels. Negotiations are being completed to print on the modern presses of Limburgs Dagblad, a Dutch regional newspaper in Heerlen. A European-based news staff will be set up in all main cities along with a sales and distribution network.

Mr Warren Phillips, Dow Jones chairman and chief executive, said the edition would not seek a wide European audience.

"We expect to be able to offer advertisers the means to reach the world's business and political leadership more effectively than ever before through our domestic and international editions," he said.

Dow Jones estimates that 50 per cent of its 2 million American readers have an average household income of \$68,000 (£38,400). That average is even higher among the readers of the newspaper's Asian edition.

The Asian edition, started five years ago and printed in Hongkong and Singapore, began with fewer than 10,000

£220m earnings 'unsatisfactory' Ford profits fall again

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

Ford of Britain, the country's only big motor manufacturer to remain in the black, saw its pretax profits pared to £220m last year. The payment of a dividend to the United States parent company has again been passed.

The results, published yesterday, show that Ford managed to stop the rot of 1980 when pretax earnings fell by 41 per cent to £226m. However, the company still regards the performance as far from healthy.

Mr Sam Toy, the chairman and managing director, said: "In our present environment these results may seem relatively good, but by any normal business standards they are unsatisfactory. We are simply not getting adequate returns from our manufacturing and trading operations."

The core of the problem, he said, was low productivity. Until we address that issue successfully we cannot hope to reverse the pattern of rising imports and falling export volumes.

Ford UK has paid a dividend to its parent in only five of the last 11 years but it has been called upon to support Ford of America with substantial loans, often made at commercial rates of interest. At the end of last year, promissory notes from Ford US reached a peak of £65m.

The result has been a substantial boost to Ford UK's earnings. The company's operating profit of £130m for 1981 — much of which was earned from the sale of imported vehicles from other Ford plants in Europe — was increased by



Sam Toy: unhappy about productivity

£90m of net interest income, almost half of which was from the American loans. Net interest income in 1980 was £85m.

The 1981 profits, reduced to £165m after tax, were achieved on sales of £3,073m compared with £2,924m in 1980.

The accounts show that because of Ford's worldwide loss of \$1,543m in 1980 — one of the worst corporate deficits in American history

Mr Toy's performance-related salary for 1981 was £52,591 compared with the £67,133 earned in the first nine months of 1980 by Sir Terence Beckett, now director general of the Confederation of British Industry.

Mr Toy's 1982 salary will be affected similarly by Ford's loss for 1981 of \$1,060m and provides a sharp contrast to the £95,500 salary paid to Sir Michael Edwardes, the BL chairman.

HK Land shares £150m deal

By Michael Prest

Hongkong's incestuous financial community was drawn even more tightly together yesterday when Hongkong Land, one of the world's biggest property companies, and Carrian Investments, a Hongkong investment company, paid about HK\$1,600m (£150m) for 25 per cent of the equity of Hongkong Electric and for a similar percentage of warrants.

Acting through Jardine Fleming, the merchant bank, Hongkong Land and Carrian offered up to HK\$6.75 for 25m shares in Hongkong Electric, the colony's second biggest electricity supplier. At the same time the buyers offered HK\$9.40 for 20m warrants in Hongkong Electric. The warrant price is equivalent to the share offer price.

Shares in Hongkong Electric rose from HK\$5.15 on Friday to close at HK\$6.35 after the buyers obtained what they wanted. The offer helped to propel the Hang Seng index up by 43.43 points to 1,279.27. Turnover reached HK\$2,000m, including the Hongkong Land purchase. The market rose about 50 points last week as well.

London sources said that about two-thirds of the Hongkong Electric shares and warrants had been bought by Hongkong Land and the remainder by Carrian.

Hongkong Electric does have some property interests, but London analysts believe that its primary attraction to Hongkong Land is the steady income and high return from electricity generation. Last year Hongkong Electric had a turnover of HK\$2,103m on which it made net profits of HK\$610m.

Its turnover is about half that of China Light and Power, the colony's main electric utility.

NCC Energy may sell Simplicity stake

By Philip Robinson

There was increasing speculation that the City last night that Mr Graham Ferguson Lacey's NCC Energy group was preparing to sell its 22.6 per cent stake in the American Simplicity Pattern group.

Shares of NCC, formerly National Carbonising where Mr Lacey became chairman two and a half years ago and holds 42 per cent of the stock, were suspended on the Stock Exchange yesterday "pending clarification of the companies position".

Before a halt was called to dealings at a new low for the year of 35p, the shares had dropped 20p. At one point this year they changed hands at 112p.

The suspension followed weekend reports that NCC was on the verge of a big crisis, and that Simplicity shareholders were wrestling with the way Mr Lacey was spending Simplicity's £45m cash mountain.

NCC's stake in Simplicity built up over the past year is worth around £14m at yesterday's 37p, which is almost half the price NCC paid for a major part of the holding.

Simplicity directors were said to be in board meetings yesterday. Mr Lacey, its chairman, was in London and refused to comment. A statement is expected from NCC later this week.

A year ago, Mr Lacey was talking about a takeover by Simplicity of NCC which would have valued the United Kingdom energy group's shares at around 150p.

Last month, he said that plans to merge the two groups had been delayed because Simplicity's cash resources could be better spent elsewhere.

Lonrho to decide on Israel link this week

By Our Financial Staff

Lonrho is expected to decide this week whether it will enter into a contract with a leading Israeli company to market and distribute agricultural machinery in Africa.

Technical experts—one from West Germany—are understood to be examining the project and Israeli sources said last night that a decision was expected within a couple of days.

The move would almost certainly place Lonrho on the Arab boycott list and cause acute embarrassment to its leading shareholder, the Kuwait-controlled Gulf Fisheries. Gulf, which has already said it will take legal advice if Lonrho invests in Israel, was last night turning its attention to a more immediate battle—the vote on Friday over whether Lonrho will be able to increase its borrowings by 50 per cent to £1,464. To get shareholders approval for the increase it will need the support of 75 per cent of the votes cast.

Lonrho refused to discuss the Israeli issue yesterday, but said it was confident of the support of a number of its institutional shareholders over its borrowing limits.

Mr Tom Ferguson Gulf's London representative, said: "Having seen the Lonrho shareholders' register, it will not exhaust me to talk to the institutional shareholders before Friday. I will be contacting them this week."

Gulf's 15 per cent of Lonrho is held by the 17 per cent holding of the trading group's chief executive Mr Roland "Tiny" Rowland.

The issue will be decided by the thousands of small shareholders which have supported Mr Rowland in the past, although Lonrho admits that a 75 per cent majority will be very difficult to achieve.

SCOTTISH PROVIDENT

The 144th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
of MEMBERS of
THE SCOTTISH PROVIDENT INSTITUTION
will be held on TUESDAY 25th MAY, 1982 at 2.30 pm
in the HEAD OFFICE,
6 ST. ANDREW SQUARE, EDINBURGH EH2 2YA

Copies of the Report and Accounts are available from this address.

J. M. MACHARG
General Manager and Actuary

6 St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh EH2 2YA
27th April, 1982

Kleinwort Benson

Continued Progress

A summary of the Statement by Mr. Robert Henderson, Chairman of the parent company, KLEINWORT, BENSON, LONSDALE plc, in the Report and Accounts for 1981.

PROFIT

Profit after tax and transfers to inner reserves totalled £21.7mn (1980 - £22.9mn). Although Sharps Pixley's contribution was well below the 1980 record figures, profits from that source still exceeded those attained in any previous year. Total dividend is 10p per share (1980 - 9p).

While demand for credit was surprisingly high, competition remained fierce and the earnings from acceptances were reduced. However, our ability to offer sterling facilities to international customers has led to a welcome inflow of business, and our sterling and foreign exchange operations have increased both in scope and profitability.

EXPORT CREDIT

One benefit of being a bank of our size is the ability to underwrite and syndicate finance for large contracts, both in sterling and dollars, and our Export Credit finance services have been widely marketed.

CORPORATE FINANCE

We had an outstanding year. The issues for British Aerospace and Cable and Wireless were successively the largest company flotations ever made in the U.K. On the international side, we had by far our most active year.

INVESTMENT

Our international investment management business has continued to prosper, and has countered competition both by good performance and by keeping the increase in costs lower than the increase in income derived from greater volume, with the world-wide support of investment teams in our overseas offices. Trustee and financial planning services have also shown international growth.

OVERSEAS

Our European subsidiaries in Bremen, Brussels and Geneva achieved satisfactory results, and Kleinwort Benson Australia - jointly owned with The Colonial Mutual Life Assurance Society - made an encouraging start with a profit for the initial eight months. Our Hong Kong branch and its satellite finance company more than doubled their 1980 profits, offering a full range of international merchant banking services. Our banking and corporate finance business in North America, through offices in New York and Chicago - and, now, Los Angeles - has expanded.

PRODUCTIVITY

Increasing productivity is helping to combat intensifying competition. Our balances of £3,600mn are still handled by office and accounting staff no larger than handled our balance sheet of only £250mn twelve years ago.

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Highlights from the Accounts

	1981	1980
Group profit	£21.7	£22.9
Investment income	29.4	21.4
Long-term funds	421.2	371.7
Profit & loss account	34.0	26.8
Long-term profits	18.7	14.2
General insurance	(18.9)	(15.2)
Underwriting loss	19.5	13.5
Shareholders' dividends	114.3	85.0
Policyholders' bonuses	5,827.1	5,107.1

If you wish to receive a copy of the Report & Accounts, or are interested in any of our insurance policies, please tick the appropriate box and send to: John Neill, Legal & General Group Plc, Temple Court, 11 Queen Victoria Street, London EC4N 4TP.

Annual General Meeting 19th May 1982.

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BUSINESS NEWS/COMPANIES AND MARKET REPORTS

Car sales figures cheer Detroit

Detroit—April 26.—United States car manufacturers increase in sales in mid-April from a year earlier, but were still not prepared to say that industry sales has bottomed out.

Deliveries during the middle 18 days of the month totals an estimated 157,924 cars, up from the 147,425 sold in the year-earlier period. The sales were equivalent to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 5.8 million units, representing little or no improvement over the selling rate of last month.

Mr. Robert Lund, vice-president of sales and marketing at General Motors, said there were some positive signs in the mid-April results and he was more optimistic about the sales outlook. "We have passed the most difficult period of the year. I think there is a greater feeling of confidence now that things will improve," he said.

But he refused to rule out the possibility that industry sales might fall in coming months.

A Ford sales analyst said the results showed that there was some stability in the car market. But he added that there was still considerable uncertainty in the near-term outlook for sales. "It's hard to tell where we'll go from here," he said.

Despite extensive industry promotion programs, reduced interest rate loans from GM and special warranty packages from both Ford and Chrysler - car sales continue to suffer from the effects of the recession and consumer doubts about the future.

"A lack of confidence in the governments ability to bring about a recovery is depressing the car market," market analyst at Paine Webber Mitchell Hutchins said recently.

An analysis of the car market published by J. D. Power Associates, a market research firm, said that nearly 14 million people said they either definitely or probably would buy a new car in the next 12 months, but that many were being kept out of the market for the time being by uncertainty about prices, products, and



Loading Escorts at the Ford assembly plant in Wayne, Michigan

the health of the industry. "Consumers are forgoing purchases because they just don't know what to do," the report concludes.

Most industry analysts believe the car market will begin to show steady improvement later in the year. But few expect sales totals for 1982 to reach even the depressed 1981 total of 8.5 million units, including imports.

Chase econometrics, a department of Chase Manhattan Bank, recently projected sales this year would total only eight million units, down 5.9 per cent from last year.

"We may be headed in the right direction," said GM's

Lund. "But I still can't tell you that everything is right with the world."

One surprisingly strong part of the market recently has been in the medium to

large-car segment. On Friday, GM announced that it would increase production at two large-car plants in Fairfax, Kansas, and Lansing,

Michigan, adding a second shift at both.

GM, which also said it would increase truck chassis production at a plant in Detroit, said the combined moves would return 9,500 hourly employees to work at the three plants.

Car companies also have been benefiting from a resurgence in truck sales. Deliveries of trucks have been running at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 2.7 million units, compared with 2.3 million units sold last year. To further stimulate truck sales, Chrysler said that it would offer \$300 to \$2,000 (£168 to £1,120) rebates on certain Dodge trucks.

—AP-Dow Jones.

MARKET SHARE

	APRIL 1-20	1982 1981
General Motors	31.1	29.1
Ford	23.0	24.2
Chrysler	13.3	13.2
Volkswagen	1.7	2.5
American Motors	0.9	1.0

US machine tool orders slump

The continuing recession and doubts about the strength of the forecasted second half business upturn are causing many American companies to curtail capital spending.

Machine tool producers say they are getting a lot of order cancellations as manufacturers cut expansion and modernization programmes. Few companies are placing orders for machine tools, which are used to shape metal parts from industrial gears to refrigerator doors.

Net new orders, the excess of orders over cancellations fell to \$135.4m (£76.5m) in March, down 51 per cent from a year earlier, according to the National Machine Tools Builders' Association. That was the lowest order level since January of 1976, and was down 17 per cent from February, the association reported.

"There's a general trend toward order cancellations," one observer said. "It isn't only the little subcontractors that are cancelling. We are seeing cancellations by larger concerns, too."

"Energy-related companies are reviewing their requirements and have decided their

growth will not go on forever," said another. "Some of the suppliers to the oil-drilling industry are having cash-flow problems because of lower drilling activity, and they can't pay for the machines they've ordered."

Machine tool buyers cancelled 569.1m of orders in March, more than double the unusually low 528.6m in February and about 30 per cent higher than the monthly average of cancellations in 1981. Some producers say high cancellations have been continuing this month.

Orders show no signs of picking up, industry executives say. "We're getting an order here and an order there, but there isn't any industry that is really ordering machine tools," Mr. Kermit Kuck, chairman of a Ohio machine tool company, said.

The nation's factories operated at a seasonally adjusted rate of 71.4 per cent of capacity in March, which indicated no need for added capacity. Profits are low and concern that high interest rates will prevent a strong recovery later this year discourages businessmen

from making commitments for expansion.

Some businessmen and economists are worried that the federal government's large cash needs to cover the budget deficit may collide with business borrowing needs as the economy picks up pushing interest rates to record levels late this year and choking off economic recovery.

"We expect machine tool orders to remain fairly flat for the rest of this year, with a pickup coming in the second quarter of next year," another industrialist said. High interest rates are considered the biggest problem, because they discourage consumer borrowing and thus cut demand for cars, houses and appliances, as well as making borrowing more expensive for business.

Orders in March for lathes, grinders, machining centres, mills, machines, boring mills and other machines to shape metal by cutting fell to \$103.3m, down 64 per cent from March, 1981, the association said.

First quarter orders fell to \$382.4m, down 46 per cent from a year earlier.

AP-Dow Jones.

APPOINTMENTS

Gold Futures Market names vice-chairman

Mr. R. D. Gee has been appointed vice-chairman of the London Gold Futures Market. Mr. Gee is also a member of the board of the London Metal Exchange.

Mr. David J. Robinson has become accounts director and Mr. Michael G. Payne executive director for administration of Trident Life.

Mr. F. A. P. Hall has been named chairman and chief executive of Ofrex Ltd, the direct selling office products company of the Ofrex Group, now part of Gallaher. Mr. Hall also becomes chairman of Frank R. Ford, the Droitwich-based manufacturing subsidiary of Ofrex Ltd. An Ofrex Group board member, Mr. Hall is also executive director of Fordgraph Consolidated (Australia) and president of Ofrex Group (Canada).

Mr. Fredy M. Dellis has been appointed president of Herts Europe with responsibility for the company's

operating network in Europe, Africa and the Middle East. Mr. Austin Reid is appointed division vice-president for finance and administration and Mr. John Hambly becomes division vice-president for sales and marketing.

Mr. John Williams of Cherry Valley Farms has been re-elected chairman of the British Poultry Meat Association. It is the first time that the association has re-elected a chairman for a third consecutive year.

Mr. R. A. Brook has resigned as secretary of Brooke Tool Engineering (Holdings) in order to devote more time to the group's machine tool division, where he has recently been appointed chief executive. Mr. Brook will remain a group financial director. Mr. I. C. L. Spencer has been appointed company secretary.

Mr. S. W. Wells, general manager, of Rediffusion Channel Islands, has joined the board.

BIDS AND DEALS

The Maclefield and Oldham business of Ernest Scagg, a subsidiary of Stone-Platt, has been sold to the Rietter Machine Works of Switzerland, by the joint receiver.

Linford Holdings has completed the sale of ITW delivered wholesale business to AFD Holdings for about £21m settled by a cash payment of £14m and £7m loan notes. The price was based on and estimate of the assets purchased by AFD and the repayment of debts within the group.

Mr. M. W. Jackson chairman of Jackson Exploration said at the annual general meeting that the company has halted work on the new gas discoveries until the sub link systems could become a licensed public utility.

Initial gas gathering system began operating last week.

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	13%
Barclays	13%
BCCI	13%
Consolidated Crd	13%
C. Hoare & Co	13%
Lloyds Bank	13%
Midland Bank	13%
Nat Westminster	13%
TSB	13%
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The Over-the-Counter Market

1981/82	High	Low	Company	Price	Chgs	YH	P/E	Div	Yield
130	100	Ass Brit Ind CULS	130	10.0	7.7	—	—	—	—
75	62	Airsprung Group	75	4.7	6.4	11.6	16.0	—	—
51	33	Armitage & Rhodes	44	4.3	9.8	3.7	8.3	—	—
205	187	Bardon Hill	200	9.7	4.9	9.7	11.8	—	—
107	100	CCL 11% Conv Pref	107	15.7	14.7	—	—	—	—
104	61	Deborah Services	62	6.0	9.7	3.1	5.8	—	—
131	97	Frank Horsell	129	6.4	5.0	11.6	23.9	—	—
83	39	Frederick Parker	76	6.4	8.4	3.9	7.4	—	—
78	46	George Blair	54	—	—	—	—	—	—
102	93	Ind Prec Castings	96	7.3	7.6	6.9	10.4	—	—
109	100	Isis Conv Pref	109	15.7	14.4	—	—	—	—
113	94	Jackson Group	99	7.0	7.1	3.1	9.0	—	—
130	108	James Burroughs	113	8.7	7.7	8.2	10.4	—	—
334	240	Robert Jenkins	242	31.3	12.8	3.4	8.6	—	—
64	51	Scruttons A	64	5.3	8.3	9.8	9.1	—	—
222	159	Torday & Carlisle	159	10.7	6.7	5.1	9.5	—	—
15	10	Twinkl Ord	13 1/2	—	—	—	—	—	—
80	66	Twinkl 15% ULS	80	15.0	18.8	—	—	—	—
44	25	Unilock Holdings	25	3.0	12.0	4.5	7.6	—	—
103	73	Walter Alexander	80	6.4	8.0	5.3	9.3	—	—
263	212	W. S. Yeates	231	14.5	6.3	6.0	12.1	—	—

Prices now available on Prestel page 48146

D. J. Robinson

Michael Payne

مكتبة الامم المتحدة

BUSINESS NEWS/FOCUS AND COMMENT



INTERNATIONAL

JAPAN
Open trade
move
delayed

Japan will not be able to announce its second package of market-opening measures until May 2, as planned, Mr. Kiichi Moriguchi, the chief cabinet secretary said, in Tokyo yesterday.

He told reporters that a meeting between the government and the ruling Liberal Democratic Party to discuss the package had been cancelled over the advisability of liberalising food imports.

The new measures would be the second such package in three months as part of Japan's efforts to defuse demands by the US and the EEC that it opens its markets to more imports.

Japanese vehicle production in 1981 fell 0.6 per cent to 11.1 million from 11.2 million the preceding year, the Automobile Manufacturers Association said.

China has signed an agreement for a \$60,000,000 loan (about £131.59m) from the Japanese Government's Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund for its economic development projects.

Nippon Steel Corporation has notified leading Japanese steel customers that it plans to raise its steel prices by an average of 5.3 per cent from June/July shipment.

Orders received by 43 Japanese construction companies in March rose 4.6 per cent to a seasonally adjusted ¥851.27m (about £186m) from an upward revised ¥814.04m in February which was up 21.4 per cent from January, the Construction Ministry said.

KUWAIT

The Kuwait cabinet has approved a new budget of 3,200m Kuwaiti dinars (£6.27m) down by about 39 per cent over the present budget reflecting the effects of the oil market glut.

FRANCE

The net consolidated profits of Maisons Penix, the residential construction firm, tumbled 72 per cent to Fr29.9m (about £2.59m) last year as the sagging economy continued to depress the French construction industry.

LEBANON

Iraq has said Syria made false statements on the royalties it received for the transit of Iraqi oil across its territory to Mediterranean terminals, halted earlier this month. Mr. Tayeb Abdel-Karim the Iraqi oil minister, was quoted by the Iraqi news agency as saying that Syria claimed to receive only \$20m (about £11m) annually from Iraq in transit royalties. But he said that under the agreement with Syria, Iraq had to pay at least \$37m a year under any circumstances, whether the oil was exported or not.

SOUTH KOREA

South Korea and the EEC ended three days of talks in Seoul on Saturday without agreement on a new four-year bilateral trade pact from 1983, the South Korean commerce ministry said. EEC negotiators were trying to cut quotas on five sensitive items by between 10 and 12 per cent, but the Koreans opposed any cut in basic levels.

CHINA

China is amalgamating all its shipbuilding facilities into a single corporation called the China Shipping Company. The sixth ministry of machine building, which makes naval and merchant vessels, is being merged with parts of the ministry of communications and shipyards in Shanghai, Dalian and Canton. The new company built about £200m worth of ships and marine equipment in the second half of last year and is trying to expand its export sales, particularly of container ships.

DENMARK

Consumer prices rose in Denmark by 0.9 per cent in March from February, and were up by 10.6 per cent from March 1981. The largest reported increase was 1.8 per cent in the price of footwear and clothing.

VENEZUELA

Venezuela's oil production so far this year has reached an average 1.80 million barrels per day, down from the average of 2.11 barrels.

CORRECTION

The total of underdeclarations of value-added tax discovered in 1980-81 was £146m, not £141m, as stated in the Business Editor's column on April 20. The overall cost of VAT collection is 1.2p in the pound, not 2p.

Peter Norman explains how a row over an obscure commodity, corn gluten, could lead to a serious rift between the two largest trading blocks. The EEC wants to limit imports from the United States which sees the move as the thin edge of the protectionist wedge. American officials warn that domestic pressures may force the Reagan Administration into retaliatory action against the EEC.

Maize farming in America: a derivative of the crop is at the heart of the dispute

US and Europe head for trade conflict

Brussels. A furious row has erupted between the United States and the European Community over trade in agricultural products.

While the attention of the world has been focused on the Falkland Islands crisis, the temperature has risen alarmingly in the at best uneasy relationship between the two largest trading blocks on earth.

The immediate bone of contention is corn gluten, an obscure commodity obtained as a by-product in the manufacture of alcohol and sweeteners from maize and used as a substitute for cereals in animal feed.

The European Commission has proposed to negotiate in the context of a General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) for a limit to the amount of corn gluten that the United States can sell to Europe.

The result has been strong and unidiplomatic language from the administration in Washington and the issue has even been drawn to the attention of President Reagan.

Suddenly high placed United States officials are talking of "collusion course", insisting that their non-tariff access for corn gluten into the EEC is "not negotiable" and threatening the Community with retaliatory action if it goes ahead and endorses the Commission's plans.

The trade at issue amounted to about 2.7 million tonnes and was worth around \$500m (£28m) to America last year. But as the reaction in Washington shows, the Commission's proposal, announced without fanfare in the week before Easter, has touched a raw nerve and points to a much bigger problem.

The corn gluten issue has come to symbolize what the Americans perceive as an assault by the EEC on their agriculture. What turns irritation to anger is the belief that the EEC is waging an unfair campaign driving American products from the European market and the markets of third countries by the indiscriminate use of subsidies.

Add to this the fact that American agriculture is suffering from a slump in profitability that has brought incomes down in real terms to levels last known in the depression of the 1930s and a foreign trade concern becomes an emotional charged domestic political issue.

The American perception of the EEC's policy is that ameliorated knowing that Europe's farmers are campaigning for two-figure increases in guaranteed minimum prices and a suspicion that the Commission's proposal to limit corn gluten imports was devised in the first place as a political sop to the cereal growers of France to smooth the way towards an eventual price package.

The Americans predict that their agricultural exports will fall this year for the first time since 1969.

The corn gluten issue has come to symbolize what the Americans perceive as an assault by the Community on their agriculture. What turns irritation to anger is the belief that the EEC is waging an unfair campaign driving American products from the European market and the markets of third countries by the indiscriminate use of subsidies.

They claim that over the last 15 years their agricultural policy has moved away from interference with the market so that today domestic prices and world market prices are the same for most major agricultural commodities.

The EEC is held to be fully insulated from the world market. Production, rewarded by a guaranteed price, is subject to no demand restraint. Although the Americans believe that the resulting high food prices in Europe hold down demand for farm products, the EEC's Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) gets around the problem by using subsidies to sell the surpluses on world markets.

The result, so the American argument goes, is that the CAP has become a common exporting policy. The disappearance of Europe's beef and butter mountains has been at the expense of American and other exporters.

In 1980/81 the EEC became a net exporter of wheat and feed grains for the first time since the creation of the CAP. Its sugar exports more than doubled to 4.5 million tonnes in 1980/81 from 2.1 million in 1976/77. The Community has in the life of the CAP moved from being the largest importer of poultry in the world to its largest exporter, while in beef and veal the EEC has shifted from being a net importer to being the second largest exporter.

The EEC can also point to bilateral trade figures between the two blocks to bolster its case. The EEC's imports of American agricultural products rose in value terms from \$6,000m in 1975 to \$9,200m in 1980 resulting in that year in an American agricultural trade surplus of almost \$7,000m.

In this period the United States held its share of a rapidly growing world trade in agriculture at around 17 per cent while the EEC increased its export share by only two percentage points to 11.5 per cent from 9.4 per cent.

The two sides' arguments may be evenly matched. But the offensive currently being mounted by the United States against EEC agriculture is fired by ideology and is part of a wider campaign to open up world trade in the 1980s.

The Americans argue that in wanting to limit corn gluten imports into the EEC, the Commission is trying to renege on a duty-free status won and "paid for" in negotiations on the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

The spectacular rise in corn gluten imports from 700,000 tonnes in 1974 to 2.7 million last year is not, they argue, a result of a deliberate export offensive by the United States. Instead, Washington argues that the increase reflects the artificially high prices of cereals in the Community, pointing out that American farmers find corn gluten,

too expensive a commodity to feed to their animals.

There is a fear that a concession to the Community on corn gluten would lead to demands that duty free soy imports also be subject to limitation.

The Americans see the corn gluten as the thin end of a wedge where the EEC Commission will try eventually to limit cereal substitute imports because they have grown in value to be worth about \$5,000m annually.

Behind the immediate issue is a different understanding of the GATT rules governing world trade. The United States asserts that GATT exists to promote free trade and that the codes allowing potentially distorting factors such as subsidies should be regarded as exceptions rather than the rule. The EEC view of the subsidy code is that it expressly allows the Community to export its goods, provided traditional patterns of trade are not disrupted.

American nerves have frayed at what is an inopportune moment for the EEC. American irritation could upset the Versailles summit in June and lead to the EEC being put in the dock when the first ministerial meeting of GATT since June 1973 is convened in Geneva in November.

The United States is already claiming a moral superiority through pressing for freer trade in the 1980s in a number of sectors including agriculture and services.

Parallel to this overall strategy, the administration in Washington is mounting a specific campaign against the EEC's subsidized exports and its import limitations in the GATT.

While Washington is strong on free trade rhetoric, officials point out that domestic pressures are such that the administration could decide to retaliate against the EEC.

Nobody is talking about a transatlantic trade war, but the rules of the game. But American officials in the front line — the United States Mission to the European Communities — point out that the administration has authority in the United States Farm Bill of 1981 to introduce subsidies to rival those of the EEC and the Community Credit Corporation has between \$20,000m and \$25,000m to finance a "subsidy war".

Business Editor
Markets keep
their cool

Financial markets hardly battered an eyelid at the retaking of South Georgia. Sterling, down to \$1.75 in overnight Far East trading, picked up steadily during the European trading day to close only marginally lower in basket terms — 0.3 down at 82.5 — and 60 points firmer (at \$1.777) against a weak dollar. Domestic interest rates, a touch higher initially, also showed no real sign of upset.

All in all, that is not an especially surprising performance. Markets had half expected a military operation to recapture South Georgia and had come to view it as likely to strengthen Britain's negotiating hand.

But any further military escalation will almost certainly be viewed in a rather different light, particularly if it threatens to draw outside powers into the dispute. For the moment though, markets will probably be happy to hold steady in the hope that the situation will be contained.

What might have been happening in financial markets had there been no Falklands crisis remains a matter of conjecture. But one can conjecture that we would already be on the way to a fresh round of interest rate cuts.

The dollar has been showing increasing signs of weakness over the past couple of weeks and Friday's unexpected news of a fall in United States money supply sent it lower against both the Deutschmark and the yen, despite some unease about the trend in non-borrowed reserves.

Institutions
Growth slows

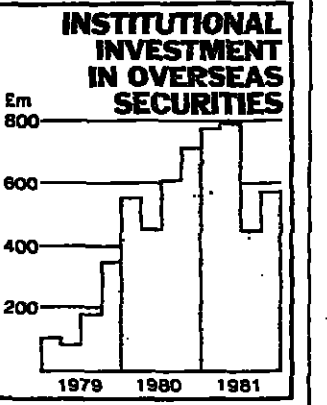
The most important message contained in the latest institutional investment figures is that the nation's large savers are growing more slowly than in their heyday of the Seventies. Recession is, of course, the main reason, as redundancies pile up and contributions to pension funds cease.

For 1981 as a whole, new money flowing into non-bank institutions rose by a little over 7 per cent to £2,000m. After allowing for inflation, inflows fell in real terms, especially in the final quarter. It is a fair bet that the nationalized industries' pension funds suffered more than most following the redundancies at British Steel and British Airways.

The slowdown in growth contradicts the assertion by Sir Harold Wilson that the pension funds alone would have an annual influx of new money totalling some £25,000m by the middle of this decade. In 1981 the

figure was just over £12,000m. However, the political limelight will not be switched off the funds. The second point to emerge from the statistics is that the bulk of the increase in new money went into Government stocks and house mortgages. Total investment in gilts was up from £5,586m to £6,416m in 1981, while investment in British equities held steady at £2,269m.

The institutions continued to build up their overseas equities portfolio in the first half of last year. Investment abroad dipped in the third quarter but



picked up in the final period. Over the year as a whole, the institutions invested £2,337m in overseas shares as opposed to £2,197m in 1980.

Clive Discount
Recovery

The interest rate roller-coaster that took base rates up, to 16 per cent late last summer and left Clive Discount with a modest loss after six months' trading has since been coming steadily down the other side of the hill. The result is that the discount houses have generally enjoyed a fairly good recovery through winter, and for Clive that has meant a marginal increase in its net disclosed full year profit — the 12 months to the end of March — to £79m.

Clive says it has had relatively little exposure in the gilt market and that most of its activity has been in the form of a high turnover in eligible bills.

But while the massive shortage in the money markets have generated enormous bill volume, that has often been on very thin margins. At 29p, the shares yield 7.8 per cent on the increased dividend, while retentions have pushed published net worth up to £6.7m.

Not just a pretty face

MARKETING AND
ADVERTISING
DESIGN

By Torin Douglas

Design companies have been fighting for years the widespread notion that their work is somewhat frivolous. Design might make things look prettier, so the argument goes, but it does not do much for the bottom line.

In recent years, Britain's top design firms, such as Fitch & Company, Allied International Designers, Conran Associates and Michael Peters and Partners have become strongly oriented to marketing and management in an attempt to persuade companies that good design can increase sales.

Now Fitch & Company has gone one better. It is setting up a design department for all its clients' work to show them that the designers' input can actually be quantified.

One of the first areas in which the benefits are being measured is the design of airport terminals and, in particular, the crucial revenue-earning part of the terminal — the duty-free shop.

Fitch is the largest design consultancy in Europe with offices in London, Paris and the Middle East. Its turnover last year was £3.6m. Much of its business is in retailing and it has adapted its knowledge of this area to the airport terminal field where retailing is playing an increasingly important part in helping authorities make a profit.

The sums involved are enormous. The British Airports Authority is currently ranked thirty-ninth in turnover of the top 100 retailing firms in the United Kingdom. Its revenue from commercial activities last year was £65m, representing 46 per cent of the authority's total income. It is estimated that without this sort of revenue most airports would have to increase their landing fees by between 25 and 30 per cent.

Fitch has been appointed to design the fourth terminal at London's Heathrow, which is due to be opened in 1985, as well as a new duty-free area at Dubai Airport. An



At the drawing board: Crispin Tweddell in the Fitch and Company offices

idea of how the company operates can be had from Shannon Airport's new duty-free shop, which Fitch redesigned.

Profits at Shannon's duty-free shop had been dropping for several years, largely because of the loss of many transatlantic passengers whose flights no longer needed to refuel at the airport. Aer Rianta, the Irish airports authority, commissioned Fitch to increase the number of passengers buying goods and also to increase the amount spent by each customer.

"Our calculations showed that only 21 per cent of available customers — those passengers passing through the airport — were buying goods in the shop", Crispin Tweddell, Fitch's development director, says.

"Initially, we agreed with Aer Rianta that we would increase this figure to 30 per cent. However, it became clear in the course of the project that a more relevant problem would be to increase the average amount spent by a potential customer. That was £11 then. We agreed that our target was to increase this expenditure to £14 a head in 1982."

It is impossible to isolate totally the design element from a wide variety of factors that can influence expenditure such as inflation, pricing policy and so on. Nevertheless, merely setting targets enables the client and the design company to agree on the objectives of any particular project and to work towards them.

At Shannon research showed that a major problem was that passengers had only about 20 minutes to spend in the duty-free shop. This was exacerbated by the enormous size of the shop (22,000 sq ft — because Aer Rianta ran it as one large department store) and the design company recommended that the whole purchasing process should be simplified. The shop should concentrate on typically Irish merchandise which would appeal as souvenirs to the passengers, many of whom are Americans.

The number of lines was reduced to 10,000. Many of the more expensive items and those that were available

more cheaply elsewhere, were removed. The total sales area was reduced to a more manageable 16,000 sq ft. The number of departments was cut to seven — each colour-coded and signposted to aid passengers in a hurry.

Recommendations like these go well beyond the traditional design function, but Fitch argues that it is only by being involved in such management decisions that design can be made to work to the profit of the client.

"We emphasized that Shannon should become more gift-oriented", Mr Tweddell says. "We also recommended that part of the price strategy should involve involving a number of more costly items. Instead, we said they should try to encourage people to buy more items. Getting people into the shop is half the battle — one ought to make it easier for them to buy more than one thing."

The idea was to group various elements together, so that passengers might buy both Irish linen and a bottle of whiskey. The most popular section liquor and tobacco — was placed at the far end of the shop so that customers had to pass other merchandise to get to it.

The scheme appears to have worked well. In the first four months, from August last year to January, the average amount spent per passenger was £14.20 and the real increase in revenue was more than 13 per cent.

What happens if Fitch & Company fails to meet the targets? Would it accept any financial penalties?

"We like the idea of a payment-by-results system", Mr Tweddell says, "and at the moment we are trying to work out a sensible scheme. It is problematical though. It will always depend on how good the client company is. After all, a firm could lose sales by putting its prices up."

We would have no control over that."

Whether or not a payment-by-results system can be applied to design work, undoubtedly the setting of fixed targets by design companies will go a long way to reassuring sceptical businessmen that good design can improve marketing and increase profits.

THE UNITED STATES DEBENTURE CORPORATION p.l.c.

Extracts from the Directors' Report Year Ended 31st January, 1982

Main Features	1982	1981	% Change
Gross Revenue	£6,800,440	£6,480,798	+ 4.9
Net Assets	£110,420,791	£96,773,449	+ 14.1
Per Ordinary 25p Stock Unit:-			
Earnings	5.92p	5.72p	+ 3.5
Dividend	5.82p	5.58p	+ 6.1
Net Asset Value	153.1p	133.4p	+ 14.8

Dividend and Revenue
We are pleased to report a 3.5% increase in after tax revenue available for Ordinary Stockholders to a record level of £4,068 millions (1981 £3,950 millions). Our gross income from the United Kingdom was marginally lower at £5,047 millions (1981 £5,107 millions), gross income from North America was 33.3% higher at £1,532 millions (1981 £1,149 millions). This increase in North American income was greatly helped by the translation of strong dollar income into relatively weak sterling. Indeed, the sterling rate against the American dollar began the Company's financial year at \$2.3870 and finished it at \$1.8810.

In view of the improved income performance and also the better prospects we see ahead for the receipt of dividend income in the current year, we are pleased to be able to recommend a final net dividend of 3.92p per ordinary stock unit, making a total dividend for the year ended 31st January, 1982 of 5.82p per ordinary stock unit representing a 6.1% increase. This is a full distribution of the year's income.

In the current year we anticipate that corporate profitability in the United Kingdom will show a good improvement, but that in the United States of America, due to the depth of the recession there, the growth of corporate profits is likely to be at a lesser rate than last year. So whilst we do not expect the growth of income in total dividend income received, it should nonetheless be possible to maintain the current rate of dividend.

Investments
The total value of the Company's investments was again a record and grew to £111,398 millions (1981 £97,899 millions). The market value of our United Kingdom investments increased by 15.4% as compared with the 14.5% rise in the Financial Times All Share Index. The market value of our investments in the United States of America increased by 12.7% as compared with the 17.0% rise in the Standard and Poor's Composite Index, as adjusted for movements in the exchange rate.

During the year we built up holdings in North American convertible stocks which on 31st January, 1982 represented a total market value of £3,448 millions or some 10.7% of the total amount invested in North America. Our United Kingdom portfolio's underlying performance of our American portfolio was partially counteracted by the weakness of sterling against the dollar. Indeed, the percentage of investments in the United Kingdom has barely changed at 71.3% (1981 70.6%) with that of the United States of America standing at 28.2% (1981 29.5%). The Oil, Gas and Exploration content of our investments in energy holdings, but by the sharply lower prices of energy shares due particularly to the build-up of the current oil over-supply situation. The marked relative under-performance of the American energy sector was almost entirely responsible for the Standard and Poor's Composite Index being a better advance than that of our American portfolio which has a pronounced bias towards investments in the oil and gas industries.

Investment Policy
In these challenging times for the investment trust movement we consider it very important to restate the investment policy of this Company which remains unchanged from last year. That is to say, our objectives continue to be to provide stockholders with a steadily increasing income whilst obtaining an acceptable rate of appreciation in the Company's investments. These objectives should be achieved through the medium of equity investments in the United Kingdom, United States of America and Canada. It is not the present intention to invest, in a significant way, in other areas. We wish to be known as an investment trust providing a relatively high income and having a bias towards investment in the United States of America and also in the energy sector.

With regard to our energy commitment, we acknowledge that the short term outlook for energy shares both in the United Kingdom and North America is unpromising, with prices for crude oil and refined petroleum products likely to remain weak until the resumption of world economic growth and the rebuilding of inventories. However, despite the depressed prices of our energy investments, we feel that their quality is such that, when recovery eventually comes, they will once again out-perform the stock markets, especially those companies involved in servicing the energy industry. We would stress that the Free World's annual consumption of oil is 82m barrels per day and that the amount of annual discoveries is only 1.5m barrels.

We intend further to reduce our investment in Canada by making timely switches to the United States of America. It is our policy to retain investments in Canada only if they stand up favourably to American comparison. It is significant that Canadian investments now represent only 2.5% of our total investments. Whilst our long term target is to have at least 40% of the Company's assets invested in the United States of America, we would nonetheless only be willing to effect this at appropriate levels of the sterling/dollar exchange rate and provided that this course of action would not unduly impact our total dividend income.

We will continue to concentrate investment in strongly financial companies with a capacity to increase dividends at an above average rate.

We consider that stock markets in the United Kingdom and the United States of America will both show worthwhile advances by the end of the current financial year, and that the Standard and Poor's Composite Index, as adjusted for likely movements in the exchange rate, will show a greater rate of increase than the Financial Times All Share Index. We conclude that it is prudent to remain fully invested at this time.

Copies of the Annual Report and Accounts can be obtained from:
The Secretary,
The United States Debenture Corporation p.l.c.,
Austrian House, Basinghall Avenue,
London, EC2V 5DD.

Head Office: Moorfields House, Moorfields, London EC2Y 9AL

Taxpayer will now finance £50m centre

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

The Cabinet has vetoed, at the last minute, a deal was to be signed, a plan to use private capital to finance the new international conference centre near the Houses of Parliament.

It is understood that Treasury objections to the method of finance proposed, and fear that the scheme in the long run could cost the Government more than it would if it were publicly financed, led ministers to change their minds. Construction of the centre has already started and its cost is to be met from public funds.

Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, announced last July that he had accepted an offer of private finance for the centre, the cost of which was put at £34m last September and is expected to rise to more than £50m by the time it is completed in four years — from the Pearl Assurance Company "subject to agreement on detailed terms".

The attraction of such an arrangement to the Government was that the centre would be built without any addition to the public sector borrowing requirement.

Months of negotiation between Pearl, the Treasury and the Property Services Agency followed until a deal was finally reached under which Pearl would meet the cost of building and, although the Government would retain the freehold of the Broad Sanctuary site, it would be charged rent by Pearl under a 125-year lease.

The initial rent would have been at market rates and subject to five-yearly reviews and it was this arrangement, with the prospect of rents at some future date far outweighing the original cost of building, that must have given ministers pause for thought.

Pearl, however, had been under the impression that the deal was acceptable. As late as March 31 the company was apparently told that the funding agreement was about to be sealed by Mr Heseltine, but on April 5 officials were called to the PSA offices and told that the Government had decided to withdraw.

Two days later, in a little-noticed parliamentary reply, Mr Heseltine said that "while the detailed terms negotiated with the Pearl Assurance Company were in line with the offer," the Government had concluded that "in view of the special nature of the building, this was a project more appropriately financed from public funds."

The Cabinet's decision is an obvious setback for Mr Heseltine, who had strongly backed the proposal from the start.

Under the deal, the Government would have had to pay nothing for four years and the initial rent would have been an agreed percentage of Pearl's outlay.

Mr Robin Bevin, Pearl's company solicitor, who was closely involved in the negotiations, said last night that the firm was disappointed and felt badly done by.

MPs warned on far left

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

The left-wing Tribune Group of Labour MPs was warned last night against destructive intentions of the party's Trotskyist ultra-left.

Mr Stanley Thorne, MP for Preston, South, said in a discussion paper on left perspectives: "An election in the near future, which we won, would see a right-wing dominated Cabinet at the very least. It is our job to work to avoid that."

The only way to defeat the right was to form a broad left alliance that would unite local areas with national groups in both the party and the unions.

But Mr Thorne gave a warning that they would have to be careful in their choice of allies. "Within the left, there are several splinter groups, Trotskyist-dominated, who generally play a destructive role in regard to maximising attempts to unify potential allies around important problems facing our people."

And he asked: "Are there some members of the left who seek a major split within the party in the hope that a substantial number of members will come together to form a revolutionary party?"

Play put off after death of Celia Johnson

By Christopher Warman Arts Correspondent

Dame Celia Johnson, one of Britain's best loved actresses, whose performance in the 1945 film *Brief Encounter* brought her stardom in a career spanning more than 50 years, died on Sunday after a stroke at her home at Nettlebed, Oxfordshire.

Dame Celia, aged 73, was to have starred with Sir Ralph Richardson (photographed right, in rehearsal) in a new play by Angela Huth, *The Understanding*, which was to have opened at the Strand Theatre, London, tonight. Performances have been postponed.

Dame Celia had apparently shown no signs of ill-health during recent performances of the play on its pre-London run at Brighton and Richmond, and during previews at the Strand.

Sir Ralph described her yesterday as "an incomparable actress. She was so English and she had such wonderful style. She was a cunning and skilful artist and she had such spirit. I have never worked with her for five times in the past."

Trevor Howard, who starred with Dame Celia in *Brief Encounter*, said he was very upset and very sad to hear of her death. She was simply the best actress I have ever worked with and I will miss her. Obituary, page 14



Mubarak seeks stronger ties with Israel

From Our Correspondent, Cairo, April 26

President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt today said his country's goal is to strengthen relations with Israel now that it has evacuated Sinai and to seek to mediate peace agreements between Israel and its other Arab neighbours.

"The only guarantee for the stability of this turbulent region," he said, "is a 60-minute speech to Parliament, a day after the Egyptian flag replaced the Star of David on the last third of Sinai. Mr Mubarak insisted that Egypt would not cede an inch of the disputed area along the border which he said was part of Egypt's territory. Precedents set by the treaty with Israel should be a model for similar agreements."

Even as he spoke the Foreign Ministry announced an agreement was imminent on the disputed one square kilometre known as Tabá, but there was no advance word of what it could contain. Israel has favoured continued negotiations and Egypt prefers arbitration. "Our only demand is justice," Mr Mubarak said. "We do not have the power to cede an inch and we cannot accept bargaining on our sacred territory."

Although his references to Tabá were a reiteration of the Egyptian negotiating position, Western diplomatic sources said they believed it was significant that he had chosen to mention it in the speech and it was in line with his general tone on the need to resolve Arab-Israeli disputes that have torn the Middle East for the past 34 years.

"The withdrawal of Israel from Sinai is an event that

strengthens peace removes an obstacle of good neighbourliness. Peace is a strategic goal and it is fundamental it should be deepened and reinforced, it should be spread," Mr Mubarak said in a strong voice. "Recent bloody events in the West Bank and in southern Lebanon prove that we must speed up efforts for peace."

"The increase of violence in the region victimizes innocent women and children, the implications of Israeli settlements in the West Bank, on Palestinian territory, cannot but consequently increase turmoil and widen the gap between Israel and the Palestinians, it can only revive suspicions, doubts and weaken hopes for the future," he said.

Mr Mubarak said Egypt would continue its negotiations with Israel on auton-

omy for the 1.3 million Palestinians in the West Bank and added that Egypt sought to provide the Palestinians with options instead of the present situation where they are "trapped between the presence of an occupation force and the desperate acts to eliminate it."

Mr Mubarak devoted a good portion of his speech to paying tribute to the Egyptian armed forces for the October, 1973 war which he said made the liberation of Sinai possible and he eulogized at length the late President Anwar Sadat whom he said had died "the leader of war and the hero of peace."

He concluded by calling on all Egyptians to work hard for reconstruction and development.

No mass land pact, page 6

Parliament has a way of ensuring that anything, no matter how great a departure from routine, becomes after a while part of the rhythm of the parliamentary day. So it is with this crisis.

Almost every day, the Prime Minister or the Foreign Secretary arrives to make a statement in between additionally dropping questions and traditionally reliable point of order time.

Nothing is allowed to interrupt the flow of the business, Mrs Thatcher or Mr Pym sits on the front row waiting to speak. At the allotted time one of the rises and talks of matters unheard in this place for a generation. But when the time, the parliamentary day calmly close over.

Yesterday, no sooner had Prime Minister left after announcing the recapture of Georgia, and Mr Pym, Mr Montgomery, the Tory backbencher, was up on a point of order to complain something that Mr Pym, the Labour backbencher, had said about him in an obscure debate in the House of Commons late one night.

At the edge of war, members are still able to slip up those little, touchy personal hatreds that are so much. And when Mr Pym moved on to a small backbench revolt over standing to do with the Finance Bill.

Old hands rightly noted this state of affairs. It was good enough for them, much greater than at the end of one session time in 1944 Churchill thought he had better advise to the House for being in his place when session time unexpectedly came early, an apology for the fact that he was had to announce it.

What are the Argentines conclude about our policy of mixing the dragged with the fustian? He said that we are a serious enemy or a trivial one. In weeks or days they will know which.

The Hon. Members should have settled this between themselves in the room," the speaker.

Frank Johnson in the Commons

When war is just part of the old routine

rebutted the feuding Mr Montgomery and Mr Pym, from which the Argentines might well deduce that we are a hot-blooded race which settles disputes of honour with duels using rock cakes. But the Tory backbench revolt may be difficult for the Argentines to place in context. The Tory backbenchers were complaining about alleged cuts in unemployment benefits. Yes, these are not the people behind the Thatcher junta? The Argentine mind probably does not comprehend such people as wets (Los Mojados).

Announcing modest triumph yesterday, Mrs Thatcher was less forthcoming than in the first weeks of the crisis three weeks ago. She may become forlorn again, for grim events may still unfold. But yesterday she was brisk and confident.

Wave of frustrated opposition

Some Labour backbenchers scoffed when the Times gave her a short cheer on entering the House of Commons. It was displayed by Mr Michael Foot, the distinct impression yesterday was of a wave of frustrated opposition to the Government on the Labour benches waiting to be released if just one military manoeuvre in the South Atlantic goes ill for us.

But yesterday they had only success to go on. Nonetheless, the signs of a potential Labour break with the Government were there as Labour members, from Mr Foot downwards, urged negotiations above force.

"If one initiative fails, another initiative has to be started," Mr Foot insisted. Some Tories protested. "Yes, yes," he told them. Meanwhile our ships were presumably supposed to wander the South Atlantic like the Flying Dutchman.

Mrs Thatcher referred more than once to the stormy seas as the winter closed in. This did not seem to deter Mr Foot from his endless negotiations. He had his mutinous party to think of. He was perhaps concerned with the stormy seas of Blackpool, come conference time. The search for peace must never be torpedoed by us," he said. But what if, in Mr Foot's search for peace, it is our ships that are torpedoed?

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements
Princess Anne visits RAF Stafford, Staffordshire, 11.
The Duke of Kent, president of the Royal National Life-boat Institution, accompanied by the Duchess of Kent, attends the naming ceremony of the lifeboat, the Duchess of Kent, Jubilee Gardens, County Hall, 3.30; the Duchess of Kent, patron, attends a reception by the Samaritans at the Denary, Westminster Abbey, 7.

New exhibitions

Sculpture by Bill Woodrow, St Paul's Gallery, 57 St Paul's Street, Leeds, Mon to Fri 10 to 5 from today until May 14.
One village festival of Indian textiles; Oxfordshire County Museum, Woodstock, Oxfordshire, Mon to Fri, 10 to 5, Sat 10 to 6 and Sun 2 to 6; (until June 6)

World of the microscope

Exhibition of photographs by Gene Cox with John Forsythe and Kate Pavell, the Octagon, Milsom Street, Bath; Mon to Sat 10 to 4.45; (until May 15).
Paintings and graphics by James McAnally and Ian Dewar, MacLaurin Art Gallery, Roselle Park, Ayr; Mon to Sat 11 to 1 and 2 to 5; Sun 2 to 5; (until May 10).
Spring exhibition, including work by Rodney Burn, Diana Armfield and John Flavin, RWA Galleries, Queens Road, Bristol; Tues-Sat 10 to 5.30; Sun 10 to 5; (until May 15).
Butterflies in print; a new book on butterflies in and moths published by the Museum to celebrate butterfly year; Natural History Museum, Cromwell Road, SW7; Mon to Sat 10 to 6 Sun to 6 (until May 23).

The pound

	Bank	Bank
	Buys	Sells
Australia \$	1.75	1.67
Austria Sch	31.00	29.00
Belgium Fr	90.00	85.00
Canada Cdn	2.14	2.14
Denmark Kr	14.80	14.05
Ireland P	1.25	1.20
France Fr	11.40	10.90
Germany Dm	115.00	108.00
Hong Kong \$	10.66	10.06
Italy Lit	2375.00	2275.00
Japan Yen	446.00	420.00
Netherlands Gld	4.84	4.59
Norway Kr	11.16	10.56
Portugal Esc	132.00	125.00
South Africa Rd	2.25	2.08
Spain Ptas	189.50	180.50
Sweden Kr	10.25	9.75
Switzerland Fr	3.62	3.40
Yugoslavia Dnr	1.83	1.76

Anniversaries today

Births: Samuel Morse, inventor of the code of that name, Charlestown, Mass, 1791; Herbert Spencer, Philosopher, Derby, 1820; Ulysses S. Grant, general and Eighteenth President of the United States, Point Pleasant Ohio, 1822; Edward Whymper, first man to climb the Matterhorn, London, 1840; Ralph Waldo Emerson, died at Concord, Mass, 1882.

National days

Afghanistan today celebrates the overthrow of President Daoud in 1978 by Afghan Marxists. President Daoud had assumed power in 1973 in a bloodless coup from his cousin and brother-in-law, King Zahir Shah. Since the Soviet invasion in December, 1979, the country has been nominally run by President Babrak Karmal, a former student leader and member of the Afghan Parliament.

Togo's national day commemorates the country's achievement of independence from France in 1960. Togo's first president, Sylvanus Olympio, was overthrown and killed in a military uprising three years later. In 1967 after four years of coalition government, Lieutenant-Colonel Etienne Gnassingbe Eyadema, the army commander, assumed control in a coup and has led Togo ever since.

Task force requests

A service of radio record requests and messages for the British task force began yesterday and will be broadcast three times a week for an indefinite period. Messages, which must be in writing, should be sent to the British Forces Broadcasting Service, King's Buildings, Dean Stanley Street, London SW1. Envelopes should be marked Task Force Request.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Finance Bill, committee, third day.
Lords (2.30): Social Security and Housing Benefits Bill, committee, first day.

TV top ten

National top ten programmes in the week ending April 18:
1. By the Sea (14.55m)
2. Open All Hours (13.30m)
3. The Kenny Everett TV Show (13.00m)
4. The Kenny Everett TV Show (12.30m)
5. Top of the Pops (11.55m)
6. The Kenny Everett TV Show (11.20m)
7. Rough Justice (11.20m)
8. Old One Out (11.10m)
9. The Double Man (10.05m)
10. Star By One-Light (10.05m)

Weather

High pressure will persist, but a trough of low pressure will extend slowly across some N parts.

6 am to midnight

London, SE England, East Anglia, Channel Isles: Perhaps a little drizzle at first, becoming bright and mainly dry with sun or clear periods; max temp 14 to 15C (57 to 59F).

Cent S, E, SW England, E Midlands, S Wales: Rather cloudy at times but dry with sun or clear periods; max temp 14 to 15C (57 to 59F).

W Midlands, Lake District, Cant N, NE England, Borders, Edinburgh and Dundee, Glasgow: Fog patches at first, dry with sun or clear intervals developing; max temp 14 to 15C (57 to 59F).

N Wales, NW England, Isle of Man, SW Scotland, Argy, N Ireland: Dry but rather cloudy at times, some sunnier or clearer intervals; max temp 14 to 15C (57 to 59F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Thursday: Rather cloudy, cool and showery in central and N districts. Mainly dry and rather warm in the S.

SEA PASSAGES

S North Sea: Wind, moderate or fresh; local strong; sea moderate. Straits of Dover, English Channel (E): Wind NE, fresh; locally strong; sea moderate. St George's Channel: Wind NE, moderate; sea slight. Irish Sea: Wind N to NW, moderate; sea slight.

The papers

The Daily Mirror writes today that Britain may win back the Falklands, "but we cannot and will not hold them indefinitely." The future of the islands will eventually be decided after talks with Argentina, it says. "That is the reality. It is not in the interests of the Falklanders to precede it by fighting."

The Daily Express is of the opinion that Britain will be foolish to hold back further military action to enable negotiations to proceed; but likewise Britain must not decline to negotiate.

The Morning Telegraph, Sheffield, comments that it is supposed for Mr Michael Foot to support the task force's presence and at the same time support political demands that preclude its use. "This merely plays into the hands of an aggressor."

Commenting on the British landing on South Georgia, the Stuttgart Zeitung issues a warning that the Argentine government will use the British attack to heat up national passion to a more explosive level.

The Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung feels the British seizure is a sign that London does not expect a political and diplomatic solution for the time being.

In Paris, Le Monde writes that the landing compromises the settlement of the Falklands. "It is easy to start a war, it is much more difficult to stop it. Mrs Thatcher faces 'new risks'."

Sporting fixtures

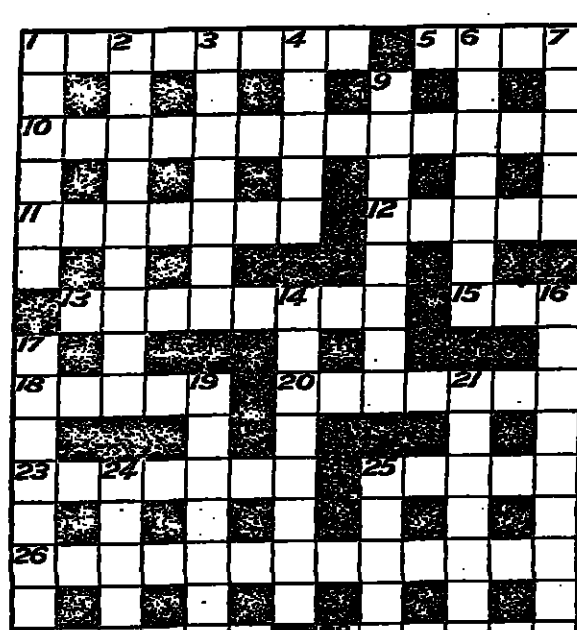
Football: Home International Championship: Wales v England, at Cardiff (7.30). First division: Coventry City v Sunderland (7.30). Second division: Crystal Palace v Watford (7.30); Grimsby Town v Shrewsbury Town. Three third division and four fourth division matches.

Racing: Flat meetings at Bath (2.0), Nottingham (2.0) and Thirsk (2.15). NH at Ascot (2.0) and Perth (2.15).

Baseball: England v Colombia at Brighton (7.30).

Cricket: Cambridge University v Nottinghamshire, at Cambridge; Oxford University v Northamptonshire, at Oxford (both 11.0 to 5.30 or 6.0).

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 15,816



- ACROSS**
- Where a member uses one, of course (4,4).
 - Striker said in this game... (6).
 - ...to be an honest player without complications (15).
 - One who's joined group in drink, say (7).
 - Female played terrible role in king's end (7).
 - Falls down under part of carriage (8).
 - Artist or writer (5).
 - Change for Romans to be such fools (5).
 - Make rare good opening as the likely loser (8).
 - He gets behind to pull girl back (7).
 - Recreation period of older generation (7).
 - A shower etc after this, perhaps (7,8).
 - Is rand convertible into these? (6).
 - PM separately introducing same measure in confusion (4,4).
- DOWN**
- Visible in fog, as little Fanny was (3,3).
 - Cricket ground joints for those hearing appeals (9).
 - Jungle fighter, note, hides in middle of hedge (7).
 - Assistant giving lessons in pronouns (5).
 - Ran into Emperor in Italian castle (7).
 - National obstacle to preside over (5).
 - Enigmatic way of shooting full of holes (8).
 - Not prepared to say how Alice met her fiancé (3,5).
 - Those who take corners in this game? (8).
 - Closest companion supports no amateur team (9).
 - Last part of church conceded as sanctified (8).
 - Person who breaks dish (7).
 - Philosopher said to take stock (7).
 - Left as resort's in holiday mood (6).
 - Minimum quantity of dye (9).
 - Disposed of 15's composition (5).

Calling Falklands

The BBC external services increased the frequency of its programme, Calling the Falklands, from three times a week to nightly from last night. The programme, broadcast on short-wave, begins at 10.15 each evening. Relatives and friends of the islanders can pass on messages by telephoning 01-240 3456 (extensions 2757 or 2758).

Solution of Puzzle No 15,815

ACROSS
1. MINIM
2. LOST
3. DOWN
4. LOST
5. LOST
6. LOST
7. LOST
8. LOST
9. LOST
10. LOST
11. LOST
12. LOST
13. LOST
14. LOST
15. LOST
16. LOST
17. LOST
18. LOST
19. LOST
20. LOST
21. LOST
22. LOST
23. LOST
24. LOST
25. LOST
26. LOST
27. LOST

High tides

WIND TODAY Pressure is shown in millibars **FRONTS** Warm Cold
Symbolic line on column